



Legislative Committee Update

April 2024

The legislative committee of WACCRA (chaired by Carlos Caguiat with Laura Saunders, Steve Neville, Rick Hanson, Kim Hickman, Donna Kristaponis, and Donna Christensen) has been working closely with the State agencies responsible for reporting to the Legislature on CCRC regulations. You may recall, the 2023 Budget Proviso put forward by WACCRA called for the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), the Office of the Insurance Commissioner and the Attorney General's Office to develop a legislative framework to be presented for action to the 2025 Legislature. The Legislature asked that the agencies focus on increased consumer protections and financial transparency for residents in CCRCs. DSHS et. al, held four listening sessions with WACCRA, LeadingAge WA, the Washington Health Care Association, and the Washington State Ombuds in February. As we reported earlier this year, their plan was to prepare and share a draft report with stakeholders this Spring. Their plans have changed, and they are now developing next steps in the process to take place over the summer. As we know more about their proposals, as well as the way forward, we will keep you posted. Their final report is still due to the Legislature by December 1, 2024.

Also --- in case it has escaped your attention --- there are hugely important State and National elections in November. Be sure you are registered to vote!

The Washington State primary is August 5th, and three top state positions - the Governor, the Attorney General and the Insurance Commissioner are all open, along with all the Washington State House of Representatives and half of the Senate. In addition, there will be some important ballot measures that affect Washington Seniors. WACCRA is exploring ways to bring these candidates to meet with our membership, so stay tuned.