

September 2024 Legislative Update

Early this year the State Legislature commissioned the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to explore and report on recommended changes to current legislation that governs CCRC operations in Washington. The Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) and the Attorney General's Office (AGO) are working with DSHS to draft this report. The final report is due to the legislature by December 2024.

In mid-August, the DSHS shared with WACCRA and other stakeholders a preliminary draft of the report. As the document is still in review by the agencies, it was marked as a DRAFT WORK IN PROGRESS – DO NOT DISTRIBUTE and we are unable to share the report at this time. In general, the report includes seven recommendations for the legislature's consideration. Several of their recommendations are consistent with WACCRA's objectives: strengthening government oversight of CCRC finances, protection from bankruptcy, resident rights and Ombuds support and timely repayment of entrance fee funds.

Each stakeholder group (including WACCRA) was allowed to submit a three-page response to the draft report which will be included as an appendix to the final report. WACCRA's response acknowledged the work done by the agencies over the last year and suggested strengthening of the recommendations to the legislature to include:

- ✓ The importance of licensure of all entities meeting the definition of CCRCs.
- ✓ Utilization of the OIC's financial and actuarial expertise in the review of CCRC financial information.
- ✓ The critical nature of meaningful and effective enforcement of regulations under the proposed legislation.

The report is due to the legislature by December 1, 2024 and we will share it with you once it is released.