



WACCRA Presentation to DSHS/OIC/AGO

In a presentation made to the three regulatory agencies on February 5, 2024, WACCRA presented its key legislative goals for CCRC regulation.

Each of the items WACCRA asked to be included in legislation was supported by a rationale for its inclusion and specific legislation in other states that provides those protections. We referred to the recent survey of WACCRA members that indicated which areas were most important.

The following are the key desired consumer protection items WACCRA asked to be considered in any CCRC legislation.

- **Guarantee of promised lifetime care including assisted living, skilled nursing, and memory care.** This provision protects residents against CCRC cuts to these services.
- **Meaningful and effective enforcement** of regulations under the proposed legislation. Without enforcement any legislation is doomed to failure.
- **Licensure.** The development of a licensure process that identifies CCRCs based on the services they offer and how those services are purchased with initial and ongoing renewal required.
- **Residents Rights and Ombuds support.** This issue provides basic rights to ensure that residents have input to decisions that materially affect them. It also provides a complaint system for issues that cannot be resolved instead of recourse to expensive remedies such as arbitration or the courts.
- **Periodic reviews, including actuarial reporting,** to the State to ascertain the ability of the CCRC to meet both its short and long-term commitments.
- **State oversight of and requirements regarding the use of a CCRC's funds for services not directly related to CCRC residents.** This issue assures that whatever CCRC funds will be fiscally sound investments that will benefit the residents.
- **CCRC resident-elected representatives on the CCRC's board of directors.**
- **Protection of resident contracts and entrance fees in bankruptcy.**

- **Timely repayment of entrance fee refunds** for residents who have this provision in their contracts.

Next steps will include a meeting in April to review the agency draft report with the combined stakeholders including WACCRA, LeadingAge, Washington Health Care Association and the State's Long-Term Care (LTC) Ombuds. The report will then be reviewed internally by the agencies with the final report due to the legislature on August 30, 2024.