



**March 11, 2025**

**Testimony of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities / Connecticut Center For Assisted Living (CAHCF/CCAL) before the Human Services Committee:**

On behalf of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities / Connecticut Center For Assisted Living (CAHCF/CCAL), a trade association of skilled nursing facilities and assisted living communities, my name is Matthew Barrett, the association's President and CEO. Thank for this opportunity to present testimony in support of H.B. No. 7189 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID COST SAVINGS.

CAHCF applauds the committee for raising legislation to achieve Medicaid cost savings. We recommend the bill include a provision that will save scarce Medicaid dollars and improve nursing home quality of care. In this regard, approximately \$61.4 million could be saved by adopting a cap on the rates a temporary nursing services can charge a Connecticut nursing home for staffing to two hundred per cent of the median hourly wage for nursing personnel by type of nursing personnel in the state, as published in the most recent State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates for the state by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the rate has to include all charges for administrative fees, contract fees and other special charges. The proposal is modeled from Rhode Island's legislation passed last year (attached).

Here is the provision that recommended for adoption:

“Amend Section 1 of Public Act No. 22-57 by adding a new subsection (f):

(f) A temporary nursing services agency's maximum rate for nursing personnel services provided to a nursing home facility shall not exceed two hundred percent (200%) of the regional hourly wage for such nursing personnel in accordance with the median hourly wage data published and reported in the month and year of passage of this Act, and updated annually, by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Estimates for the State of Connecticut, except for nursing personnel services provided to a nursing home related to strike