



**April 3, 2025**

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

Senator Osten, Representative Walker and the members of the Appropriations 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 concerning **H.B. No. 7254 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES' IMPLEMENTATION OF CHANGES RESULTING FROM THE MEDICAID RATE STUDY.**

As we similarly expressed in testimony concerning Medicaid rates for skilled nursing facilities recommended by the Governor for SFY 2026 and SFY 2027 before the Appropriations Committee and the Human Services Committee (S.B. No. 1251) earlier this session, we are once more asking the Appropriation Committee today also to consider the needs of Connecticut's skilled nursing facilities in your deliberations on Medicaid rates.

Unfortunately, the Governor's two-year budget recommendation now before the Appropriations Committee continues the decades-long policy of eliminating skilled nursing facility statutory inflationary increases. For SFY 2026 and SFY 27, when including the state and federal share, the overall reduction in this line item amounts to \$111.4 million. See the excerpt below from the Governor's proposed SFY 2026 and SFY 2026 recommended budget for these budget details. See also the below corresponding statutory implementation language related to the inflationary reduction included S.B. 1251 (line 935), AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, which is legislation before the Human Services Committee introduced at the request of the Governor.