



Support Home Care, Seniors, Caregivers, Small Businesses and the Economy

HCAOA Connecticut **supports** several policies in the 2024 legislative session that would help improve the delivery of home care; protect seniors, consumers and caregivers; and support small businesses and the economy, including:

Industry standards such as licensure that improve the delivery of in-home care to clients.

Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates so they keep pace with the amount and correspond to the timing of minimum wage increases.

Caregiver safety. Policies to protect caregivers working in the home should consider appropriate safety protocols, education, training and oversight provided by home care agencies and address state responsibility, enforcement of laws, and liability.

Transfer registration and oversight of home care agencies from the Department of Consumer Protection to the Department of Public Health. HCAOA Connecticut and member agency owners seek to serve as a resource to officials and participate as stakeholders in the study adopted by Public Act 23-48, advise on the plan and ensure a smooth transition.

Caregiver shortage. As the aging population continues to expand, more seniors prefer to age in place in their own homes, and demand for in-home caregivers rises, the supply of caregivers has not kept pace. Policymakers can recognize and support caregivers with dedicated training and education programs, and raise income limits for participation in state programs and benefits such as HUSKY Health.

Home Care Association of America Connecticut advocates for home care agencies that employ, train, monitor, screen and supervise caregivers; create a plan of care for the client; and work toward a safe and secure environment for the person at home. More than 100 HCAOA Connecticut members employ several thousand caregivers providing quality, affordable care in the home to thousands of elderly consumers, persons with disabilities and veterans across the state. For additional information, visit www.hcaoa.org.

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