



2007 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Support liability insurance incentives for good performing nursing homes

Amend Florida Statutes 400.141 addressing Florida Statutes 627.062, which would base nursing home liability insurance premiums on a graduated scale, based on annualized historic risk levels.

Support needed revisions to HMO Return to Home statutes

Florida Statutes 641.31 addresses the right of continuing care residents with HMO coverage to received skilled nursing care in their community's on site nursing home after hospitalization. Federal changes with Medicare have necessitated additional language be added to this section of law to ensure proper reimbursement rates are in place to maintain this benefit for residents.

Oppose any proposals that establish "nursing home bed taxes" in continuing care retirement communities

Provider service fees relative to nursing home beds applied to private pay resident's result in double taxation. Private pay residents of long term care facilities already help fund Medicaid through federal taxes. Private pay seniors residing in long term care facilities and CCRC's should be exempted from any new service fee.

Support modification to Florida Statutes 400.23 to allow nursing homes that meet a certain quality to not meet 2.9 staffing mandates

Private pay residents pick up the tab for increased staffing ratios directly through increased costs of living at their retirement communities. Our belief is that for those homes that already meeting the highest ACHA standards at current staffing levels should not be mandated for the higher ratio. Our organization has achieved agreement with the state Chapter of AARP to exempt those nursing homes that are part of a CCRC that are 4 or 5 star rated by ACHA from meeting the 2.9 mandate.