



**PO Box 398 • Cheshire, Connecticut 06410 • [www.coalitionagingct.org](http://www.coalitionagingct.org)**

*The mission of the Connecticut Coalition on Aging, Inc. is to work to improve the quality of life for elders, especially those most vulnerable. Our priorities reflect that mission and are determined by the results of our annual state-wide survey on legislative issues. Over 1200 responses to this year's survey were received, most from those age 65 and over.*

Human Services Committee Hearing, Thursday, February 8, 2007

**The Coalition on Aging Priority number 3 for 2007 is to support community-based services:**

- Support home health care and companion services.
- Direct resources to maintaining frail elders at home rather than in institutions.
- Increase reimbursement for adult day care programs.
- Maintain funding for home-delivered and congregate meals.

The bills being heard today are part of the important goal of providing the resources for frail elders to remain in their homes in the community rather than in the personally and financially costly alternative of nursing homes.

Bill 5302 and others would increase payments to home health care and companion agencies through the Connecticut Home Care Program for the Elderly.

Bills 382 and 6277 would increase funding for the elderly nutrition program.

Bills 572 and 5301 would increase funding for the important respite provided by adult day care programs.

It is essential to use the resources of the state to keep up with the growing need for these programs. In the long run, meeting this goal not only supports the preference of our growing elderly population but is also cost-effective.