



CONNECTICUT  
ASSISTED LIVING  
ASSOCIATION

**CALA Testimony on Senate Bill 453 – An Act Concerning Financial Assistance to the state's Assisted Living Pilot Projects**

The following shall constitute written testimony regarding Senate Bill 453 An Act Concerning Financial Assistance to the state's Assisted Living Pilot Projects from the Connecticut Assisted Living Association (CALA).

CALA is a statewide organization that represents the owners and operators of some 100 managed residential communities offering assisted living services to Connecticut's elderly.

As you are aware, this bill very simply seeks to change the total number (from 75 to 150) of individuals in Connecticut who may be eligible to receive Assisted Living services under the Medicaid waiver portion of the Connecticut home-care program for the elderly established under statute section 17b-342.

CALA supports this measure from the perspective that increasing the number of Connecticut's frail elderly who may be eligible for the program to 150 appropriately allows the initiative to continue to be considered a pilot program. One of the obvious benefits of a pilot is that the program remains a manageable size relative to any needed modifications or revisions in implementation.

Finally, this legislative proposal advances the notion that supports and services such as medication management, opportunities for socialization, and the provision of proper nutrition provided to older adults in the Assisted Living setting allows residents to continue to live in a residential, non-institutional environment that fosters personal dignity, choice and independence.

CALA remains available to work with committee members as this bill evolves.

Thank you for your consideration.