CAADC

Connecticut Association of Adult Day Centers, Inc.

Testimony of the Connecticut Association of Adult Day Centers, Inc

Submitted to the Human Services Committee

Regarding

Senate Bill 30, An Act Implementing Provisions of the Budget Concerning Human Services

Senate Bill 233, An Act Concerning Advanced Payments to Nursing Facilities for Uncompensated Care

March 1, 2012

The Connecticut Association of Adult Day Centers (CAADC) is a statewide professional_association devoted to promoting quality adult day center service. Connecticut's adult day centers provide a cost effective, community-based choice for older adults in need of varying assistance and care during the day. With adult day services, individuals are able to remain in their homes rather than moving to assisted living or a nursing home. At the same time, their quality of life is enhanced with a strong social component and a continued sense of independence. On behalf of our forty-seven member centers, we respectfully submit the following testimony:

Senate Bill 30, An Act Implementing Provisions of the Budget Concerning Human Services

Maintain Full Funding for the Alzheimer's Respite Care Grant Program

The Alzheimer's Respite Care Program is a funding lifeline for many of our most needy clients and caregivers. The fact remains that past freezes under this essential funding program pushed many clients and their caregivers to eliminate services, created waiting lists and forced many clients to apply for Medicaid eligibility to receive these necessary respite care services. We have witnessed many of our clients and their caregivers withdraw from adult day services when their grant funding ran out, only to hasten their move to more expensive nursing home care. We encourage you to avoid these unintended outcomes and *to oppose* the proposed cut to the Alzheimer's Respite Care Grant funding.

Senate Bill 233, An Act Concerning Advanced Payments to Nursing Facilities for Uncompensated Care

Improve the State Assistance Application Process

Senate Bill 233 attempts to address a growing crisis that is affecting all consumers and providers of long term care, services and supports – the excessive delays in the Medicaid eligibility process. This crisis is not just affecting skilled nursing facilities. The complexity, misunderstanding and delays in the current application and eligibility process for both Medicaid and the State Funded Waiver Programs are also thwarting access to needed community-based long term care services. The state must make it easier for older adults and their families to seek and receive assistance the right services, at the right time, and in the right setting. *We urge immediate attention to this issue and a solution to the growing crisis of delayed eligibility determinations.*

CAADC would like to thank the Human Services Committee for your continued support of Adult Day Centers and for your consideration of our submitted comments.

The Connecticut Association of Adult Day Centers encourages state leaders and legislators to spread the word that adult day center services can be the answer for families and individuals seeking community based long term care services. To view our ***new consumer video*** *on adult day center services, go to www.leadingagect.org and click on "Adult Day Centers."*

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