



**Connecticut Association  
of Adult Day Services**

**Testimony to the Aging Committee**

**Submitted in support of**

**SB 165, An Act Expanding Eligibility for the Alzheimer's Disease Respite Care Program**

**February 25, 2016**

The Connecticut Association of Adult Day Services, or CAADS, is an organization of forty-seven adult day centers from across the state of Connecticut. CAADS is pleased to submit testimony today in support of SB 165, *An Act Expanding Eligibility for the Alzheimer's Disease Respite Care Program*.

CAADS thanks the Committee for proposing this bill to expand eligibility for the Alzheimer's disease respite care program and for your strong overall support of the respite program.

The members of CAADS know from experience that respite care is cost effective to the state and invaluable to family caregivers. Many elders with dementia live within their own homes for many years with the majority of the caregiving being provided by a spouse, relative, or close friend. It is both the elder and the caregiver who are served by the respite program. Adult day centers provide respite services to many of these individuals and we see firsthand how the respite program helps family caregivers continue to care for their loved ones at home. We also know that there are many other families who could benefit from the program.

Family caregivers provide countless hours of unpaid long term care, services and supports. They are the true heroes of our long term services and supports system and providing them with needed respite is not only the right thing to do, but it is the prudent thing to do as they save our Medicaid program millions – possibly billions - of dollars every year.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

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**View our video** about how wonderful a day can be at a certified adult day center.

Go to [www.leadingagect.org](http://www.leadingagect.org) and click on **Adult Day Services**