# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 117**

***January Session, 2025***

House Bill No. 6986

*House of Representatives, March 18, 2025*

The Committee on Aging reported through REP. GARIBAY of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## *AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SENIOR CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section, "senior citizen" means a state resident sixty-five years of age or older. There is established a "Senior Citizens' Bill of Rights". The rights afforded to senior citizens, as set forth in subsection (b) of this section, are available only insofar as they are implemented in accordance with other parts of the general statutes, state rules and regulations, federal law, the Constitution of the state and the Constitution of the United States.

(b) Each senior citizen in this state has the right to:

(1) Live in the community of their choosing;

(2) Independence to the maximum extent possible no matter the age or ability of such senior citizen;

(3) Participate in care decisions to the maximum extent possible;

(4) Live with dignity; and

(5) Be treated inclusively and with respect, including being accepted as their authentic selves, whether or not they identify with any community with a history of being marginalized or disempowered.

(c) Each municipality may post in a public place a notice of the rights enumerated under subsection (b) of this section. Each nursing home, managed residential community and facility housing elderly persons licensed or funded by the state shall post such notice in at least fourteen-point type at the entrance to such nursing home, managed residential community or facility.

| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Section 1 | *October 1, 2025* | New section |

***AGE*** *Joint Favorable*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

## *OFA Fiscal Note*

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### *Explanation*

The bill establishes a Senior Citizens' Bill of Rights, which does not result in a fiscal impact.

## *The Out Years*

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis**

**HB 6986**

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SENIOR CITIZENS' BILL OF RIGHTS.***

## SUMMARY

This bill creates a bill of rights for state residents aged 65 years or older ("senior citizens"). It specifies that the rights given to them must be available to them only to the extent that they are implemented in keeping with the general statutes, state rules and regulations, federal law, and the state and U.S. constitutions.

Under the bill, senior citizens have the right to:

1. live where they choose;
2. independence to the maximum extent possible no matter their age or ability;
3. participate in care decisions to the maximum extent possible;
4. live with dignity; and
5. be treated inclusively and with respect, including being accepted as their authentic selves, whether or not they identify with a historically marginalized or disempowered community.

The bill requires each state-licensed or -funded nursing home, managed residential community, or facility housing elderly individuals to post a notice of these rights at its entrance in at least 14-point type. It allows municipalities to post notices of these rights in public places.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

## COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 11 Nay 2 (03/04/2025)