

State of Connecticut

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



AGING COMMITTEE
STATE CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 011
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591
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Homemaker Companion Task Force

11/18 Meeting Minutes – 12:00 p.m. on Zoom and YouTube

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by co-chair Mark McGoldrick.

The following members were present:

Mark McGoldrick, Anne Foley, Michael Savoie, Sheldon Toubman, Christy Kovel, Maria Cerino, Mairead Painter, Anna Doroghazi, Tracy Wodatch, Chris Wanner

The following members were not present:

Leslie O'Brien, Lewis Bower

Co-chair McGoldrick welcomed the members and introduced the distributed memo, which summarized the major points raised in the 11/4 public hearing and from the DPH and DCP presentations on 10/27, and how they related to the task force's mandate.

Members discussed the general public confusion regarding CT's Homemaker Companion Agencies (HCAs), and how there is a need for public education to mitigate said confusion. Members also discussed confusion regarding oversight of HCAs, and specifically whether DPH or DCP should have oversight priority. Members discussed confusion regarding the services HCAs are permitted to provide.

Michael Savoie made several recommendations, including a cap on the total number of HCAs allowed to operate in the state, a more stringent registration process, clarification of definitions of HCAs versus personal (medical) care agencies, and stronger training requirements.

Members discussed quality of service issues with HCAs and how to possibly address these issues outside of complaint resolution systems, as well as the complaint filing process,

oversight, disclosure of training in advertising materials, and handling repeat complaints against agencies.

Members discussed the specifics of memory care with regards to HCA advertising and training, as well as regulations for Personal Care Assistants versus Homemaker Companion employees, and general confusion regarding licensing for HCAs by DCP and DPH, and the particulars of a "medical model" of care versus a "social model".

Members talked about public awareness of training for HCA caregivers, and the best ways for consumers to be informed, as well as the need for a consistency of training.

Co-chair McGoldrick announced the date of the next meeting as December 2nd at noon via Zoom and YouTube Live.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.