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May 12, 2025

Joint Committee on Aging and Independence  
Massachusetts Legislature  
State House  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chair Jehlen, Chair Stanley, Vice Chair Velis, Vice Chair Montañó, and Members of the Joint Committee on Aging and Independence:

I write on behalf of Beacon Communities LLC in strong support of H.1369, An Act to strengthen supportive housing and reduce healthcare costs for low-income seniors. This bill will fund essential senior supportive care services for some of our most vulnerable Massachusetts residents living in affordable housing.

As an affordable housing provider, Beacon Communities provides direct services and coordinates on-site programming in our communities, with a major focus on health and wellness for seniors and adults with disabilities. Older adults living in affordable housing are in dire need of supportive services to help them live independently and continue to age in place in their communities. These services are one of the major deciding factors that keep an older adult in their home, improving quality of living, reducing emergency care visits and hospitalizations, and prolonging the need to move to a higher level of care.

Unfortunately, funding for senior supportive services in affordable housing has historically been inadequate and is currently at risk. Funding senior supportive care services for MassHealth enrollees will allow housing providers to continue providing these services to individuals and families living in our communities. In communities lacking funding for senior care services, financial support through MassHealth will make a critical difference in seniors' health, wellbeing, and ability to age in place.

Integrating housing and health services is key to supporting independent living and housing stability among our most vulnerable populations. At Beacon, our Resident Services "Wellness Program" program aligns with social determinants of health strategies, and we strive to connect residents to onsite assistance and local health and wellness services tailored to their needs. This bill will allow housing providers across the Commonwealth to maintain and expand provision of vital senior care services.



On behalf of Beacon Communities, I hope you will report H.1369 favorably out of committee. Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me for any additional information.

Sincerely,

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