



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Representative Thomas M. Stanley
House Chair, Joint Committee on Elder Affairs
State House, Room 167
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chair Stanley,

I appreciate that the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs is considering House Bill 782, *An Act to strengthen the state home care program workforce* and I would like to take this opportunity to encourage the committee to support a favorable recommendation on this legislation.

Home care agency workers play a vital role in ensuring that some of Massachusetts's most vulnerable residents are being provided with the essential services necessary to allow them to lead healthy and sustainable lives, while also helping to support families who may not be equipped to provide their loved ones with the care that they need.

These individuals joined this profession because they sought to make a positive difference in the lives of those around them and to support their community through their service. However, thousands of these essential workers are exiting the field at unprecedented rates due to high-patient loads, poor working conditions, and low wages.

This issue, which has already begun to impact patient care, will only continue to worsen over time.

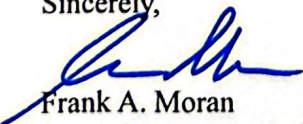
A 2024 Channel 7 News investigation found that "at any given time, there are roughly 300 people in Massachusetts hospitals who have been waiting more than a month to be discharged into the care of a home aide" and "there are over 4,000 older adults who are awaiting services, and the number one reason being lack of available home care workers."

I filed H.782 to help alleviate this workforce shortage by allowing home care agency workers to choose whether they would like to join a union through labor peace agreements. Providing such an opportunity will improve working conditions for more than 100,000 workers in Massachusetts, retain critical staff, and most importantly, ensure that patients continue receiving the high-quality care that they deserve.

It is essential that Massachusetts utilizes every option available to bolster our home care agency workforce and I respectfully request that the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs report this bill out favorably.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,


Frank A. Moran
Second Assistant Majority Leader
17th Essex District