



April 13, 2025

Joint Committee on Elder Affairs
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs Jehlen and Stanley and Members of the Joint Committee,

On behalf of the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA), I write to express our support for the direction of Senate Bill 470/House Bill 789, *An Act to improve Massachusetts home care*, which would establish a licensure framework for home care agencies in the Commonwealth.

HCAOA is the national trade association representing home care agencies that employ caregivers to provide in-home assistance with activities of daily living. Our members serve older adults, individuals with disabilities, and others who wish to remain safely and comfortably in their homes and communities. We have members across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and throughout the country.

We believe that licensure of home care agencies is an important step toward ensuring consumer protection, promoting quality care, and professionalizing the home care workforce. Massachusetts is one of only a few remaining states without a licensing requirement for non-medical home care, and establishing a clear and consistent regulatory framework would bring the state in line with national norms.

That said, we urge a balanced approach to licensure. While appropriate oversight is essential, the implementation of this framework should recognize the diversity of agency structures and avoid duplicative or overly burdensome requirements that may unintentionally limit access to care or stifle innovation. Flexibility for agency owners, particularly smaller operators, is critical to sustaining a strong and responsive home care system.

We appreciate that H.789 includes provisions intended to coordinate with existing oversight mechanisms and calls for stakeholder engagement through advisory committees. As the bill moves forward, we encourage the Committee and regulators to continue seeking input from providers to ensure the licensure process is workable, transparent, and aligned with the practical realities of delivering care in the home.

Thank you for your commitment to strengthening home care in Massachusetts. HCAOA stands ready to collaborate with state leaders, patients, and other stakeholders to support the thoughtful implementation of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Eric Reinerman
Vice President, Government Relations
Home Care Association of America