



May 12, 2025

The Honorable Thomas Stanley, Chair
The Honorable Patricia Jehlen, Chair
Joint Committee on Aging and Independence

Dear Chairs Stanley, Jehlen and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of LeadingAge Massachusetts, I am writing to offer our strong support for **HB-781/SB-477 An Act Establishing the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly**

LeadingAge Massachusetts is the only statewide association representing the continuum of not-for-profit providers of housing, health care and services for older adults including nursing homes, residential care facilities, assisted living residences, life plan communities (also known as continuing care retirement communities), subsidized senior housing and other community-based service providers. Governed by community-based volunteer boards, our members are sponsored by faith-based, ethnic, fraternal and other not-for-profit organizations, many of whom have been providing care to elders in their communities for more than 100 years. We are striving for a future where all older adults shall have an opportunity to live in age friendly communities where they have access to the services they need when they need them in the place they call home.

The Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Aging (PACE) is an innovative program that has been supporting older adults in the Commonwealth for more than 30 years. Utilizing an interdisciplinary team that is able to develop individualized plans of care that cover all health care and long term services and supports needs, PACE has worked successfully to support nursing home eligible individuals to remain in their homes and out of nursing homes for as long as possible. PACE has been an especially important partner for senior housing providers including affordable senior housing, assisted living and rest homes. LeadingAge Massachusetts is pleased there have been efforts over the past few years to expand access to PACE programs across the state. HB 781 and SB 477 would codify the PACE program into state statute signifying the permanent and growing importance of PACE in supporting older adults across the Commonwealth.

LeadingAge Massachusetts respectfully asks the committee to act favorably on HB-781 and SB-477.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elissa Sherman".

Elissa Sherman
President