



To: Representative Iden– Members of House Regulatory Reform Committee
From: Michigan Center for Assisted Living, Linda Lawther, President/CEO
Date: September 19, 2017
Subject: Senate Bill 378

The Michigan Center for Assisted Living (MCAL) would like to thank you for this opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 378, which seeks to clarify licensure requirements for Homes for the Aged.

My name is Linda Lawther and I am the CEO of MCAL which is a division of the Health Care Association of Michigan. Our membership is made up of Homes for the Aged, Adult Foster Care and Independent Living. Residents of our homes include seniors and adults living with special needs.

We are testifying in support of the bill.

For the past year there has been discussion and review of our concerns on issues related to changing interpretations of licensure for senior housing communities. The language in this bill clarifies the definition of a Home for Aged and establishes an attestation and exemption opportunity for those communities that may not be able to meet some of the requirements as established in Home for Aged licensure. This language will make the law more clear for those settings regarding when a license is required or not required. Some communities do not currently qualify for HFA license based on the construction of their building. Language in this bill would give some flexibility on which Life Safety Code chapter could be applied, possibly allowing an opportunity for licensure. Additionally, language was developed and included that would move a portion of the cost of background checks for employees in HFAs from LARA's budget to HFA licensed communities.

MCAL would like to thank Senator Knollenberg and his staff for their efforts in bringing this bill to fruition and to Representative Iden for taking this up in committee