

LEGISLATIVE

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Assisted Living & Personal Care Home Improvements

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The problem:

Although recently passed legislation, HB 987, provides enhanced & improved oversight, improved staff training and better access to accurate and timely information about facilities that are cited for deficiencies and are fined, more should be done. Studies have shown that 70% of people living past age 65 will need extended care services at home or in a facility.

What other states are doing:

Hopefully the 2019 NCAL 50 state survey of regulations and these two Georgia educational institutions with programs in caregiving and aging can share their expertise on where GA stands nationally: GA Southwestern State University and The Technical College System of GA.

What this legislation would do:

- Increase annual licensing fees for Assisted Living Communities and Personal Care Homes.
- Create an occupied bed charge in Assisted Living Communities and Personal Care Homes.
- Implement ethics reform to prohibit facilities from accepting money in return for a referral to outside providers (e.g. PT, OT, speech therapists, etc.)

However, any revenue generated by proposed fees **MUST GO INTO** the State's General Fund and **MAY NOT** be dedicated to improvements in Assisted Living Communities and Personal Care Homes.

Any opposition:

There may be pushback from Georgia legislators that have a financial interest in Assisted Living Communities and Personal Care Homes, LTC facilities, consumer advocates objecting to higher costs and other providers that receive referrals from LTC facilities.

Helpful Resources:

Atlanta Journal-Constitution