

ARGENTUM – WHO WE ARE



Argentum is the largest national, non-profit association dedicated to representing America's 31,000 professionally managed assisted living and memory care communities, and the 2 million residents and families that they serve. With our 35 state partner associations, Argentum advances policies to improve the lives of seniors and their caregivers.

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNITIES NEED CONGRESS TO ACT:

1 Solve the Assisted Living Workforce Shortage Crisis

Long-term care (LTC) workforce shortages eclipse all other health care shortages, with an estimated 20.2 million workers needed by 2040. Assisted living and memory care communities face the most acute workforce needs across the entire LTC continuum.

A. Re-Direct Current Federal Labor Programs

Congress can alleviate the senior care workforce crisis without creating new programs. Report language in the FY23 Omnibus called on HHS and DOL to develop the workforce needed to care for the rapidly aging population, "through education, training grant programs, as well as traditional and non-traditional apprenticeship programs." Congress must now better target existing programs:

- Re-direct HHS and DOL workforce training programs like Job Corps, American Job Centers and other training programs to offer specializations in senior care.
- Expand apprenticeship opportunities specifically for senior care and preventing the DOL's Closing the Skills Gap Apprenticeship Program from expiring.

B. Support Common-Sense Immigration Reform for Seniors' Direct Care Needs

2 Help More Seniors Access Assisted Living Communities

With customer satisfaction ratings consistently above 90%, assisted living enjoys higher satisfaction rates than nearly every other industry in the U.S. and is half the cost of nursing home care. Enabling more seniors to access this cost-effective care will save state and federal tax dollars.

A. Support S. 495 & H.R. 1815

The bipartisan *Expanding Veterans' Options for Long-Term Care Act* would create a pilot program allowing veterans to choose assisted living care at half the cost of a skilled nursing facility per year (\$51,600 vs \$120,701).

B. Support the soon-to-be introduced SENIOR Act, led by Representatives Fitzpatrick and Trahan, which will improve access to assisted living communities with common-sense long-term care financing reforms.

3 Join the 21st Century House Long-Term Care Caucus