**Script for Calling Congress about the Proposed MFAR and Protecting CCRCs**

*Before calling, please review the script and fill in the yellow highlighted areas to be specific to you and your community.*

*Visit your Senator’s/member of Congress’ website for a phone number, or dial call (202) 224-3121 for the U.S. Capitol switchboard operator, who will connect you to the right offices.*

*Once connected, ask to speak with the health or Medicaid legislative staffer. If connected to the staffer, share the script below.*

*If that person is not available, leave a message with the front desk staffer for the staffer to call you back because you are concerned about the negative impact a proposed CMS rule will have on older persons in your state and district.*

Hello, my name is (name) and I am (position title) at (community name) in (city, state) (if calling a house member, reiterate that the community is in his/her district. This is critical to emphasize).

(Talk for a sentence or two about your community, how many people live there. Assume the person does not know your community or what a CCRC/life plan community is).

I am calling today about the proposed Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Regulation. This proposed rule from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services could have serious and dangerous implications for continuing care retirement communities in (state).

Right now, (state) has a provider tax for nursing homes that exempts (or discounts, depending on your state) continuing care retirement communities from paying the tax. We do not participate in the Medicaid program (if you do, rephrase to something like “we receive very little Medicaid funds”) and right now do not pay into it either.

If the proposed rule becomes final, (community name) would almost certainly have to pay higher state taxes in the form of the provider tax. This could easily become a new six- or seven-figure cost each year that would burden (community name) and the residents who live there.

I do not believe it’s the intention of CMS or the administration more broadly to take regulatory action that would increase state taxes or the cost of nursing home care for private-pay residents. The proposed MFAR, however, would do just that in (state name) by disallowing our provider tax exemption (or discount) for CCRCs.

I urge (Congress person’s/Senator’s name) to contact CMS and ask that the agency either withdraw the proposed rule and/or make revisions to any final rule that would protect continuing care retirement communities and their residents.

Thank you.

**If you get any questions, you can direct them to Brendan Flinn at LeadingAge,** **bflinn@leadingage.org** **or 202-508-1205. If the office express interest or want more information, you can also contact Brendan directly and he/LeadingAge will execute follow up to those offices.**