

## Key Bills List

### Affordable Housing

#### LeadingAge supports:

- *Fiscal Year 2027 HUD appropriations bill* (no bill numbers yet), to provide robust and timely funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development to preserve, expand, and improve the supply of affordable housing for older adults and the aging services workforce.
- *Provisions of the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act* (a substitute amendment to HR 6644), with adjustments, and the *Housing for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act* (HR 6644), to streamline rules that add cost, time, and burden to the affordable housing production and preservation process.
  - The *21st Century ROAD to Housing Act* was introduced by Senators Tim Scott (R-SC) and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).
- *Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act* (S 1515 / HR 2725), which would improve and expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program.
  - S 1515 was introduced by Senators Todd Young (R-IN) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA).
  - HR 2725 was introduced by Reps. Darin LaHood (R-IL) and Suzan DelBene (D-WA).
- *Expanding Service Coordinators Act* (HR 5057), which would authorize funding for new service coordinators, including in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and Rural Housing Service housing.
  - HR 5057 was introduced by Reps. Adam Smith (D-WA), Joyce Beatty (D-OH) and Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR).

### Aging Services Workforce

#### LeadingAge supports:

- *Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act* (S 2759 / HR 5283) to recapture 40,000 previously authorized but unused visas, 25,000 of which would be designated specifically for nurses and help alleviate the backlog of EB-3 green cards used to recruit nurses from abroad.

- S 2759 was introduced by Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL), Kevin Cramer (R-ND).
- HR 5283 was introduced by Reps. Brad Schneider (D-IL) and Don Bacon (R-NE).
- *Dignity Act* (HR 4393) to offer legal status and work authorization to long-term undocumented immigrants without criminal backgrounds.
  - HR 4393 was introduced by Reps. María Elvira Salazar (R-FL) and Veronica Escobar (D-TX).
- *Essential Workers for Economic Advancement Act* (HR 5494) to establish a new temporary work visa (an H-2C nonimmigrant visa) that would be available to non-degreed, nonseasonal workers, such as nurse aides, home health aides, and personal care workers.
  - HR 5494 was introduced by Reps. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), Henry Cuellar (D-TX), Tom Suozzi (D-NY), and Maria Elvira Salazar (R-FL).
- Bill to designate Haiti for temporary protected status.
  - HR 1689 was introduced by Reps. Laura Gillen (D-NY), Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Frederica Wilson (D-FL), and Michael Lawler (R-NY).
- *Certified Nursing Assistant Workforce Improvement Act* (HR 3471) to direct HHS to update federal regulations so that registered nurses with at least two years of nursing experience, regardless of whether that experience is in long-term care, can supervise CNA training programs.
  - HR 3471 was introduced by Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-WI).
- *Professional Degree Access Restoration Act* (S 4039 / HR 6677), which would reverse recent reductions in federal student loan availability for graduate and professional students, restoring access to financing for advanced education programs such as nursing, social work, and other health professions.
  - S 4039 was introduced by Senators Angela Alsobrooks (D-MD), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Andy Kim (D-NJ), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Tina Smith (D-MN), and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).
  - HR 6677 was introduced by Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-NY).

- *Professional Student Degree Act* (HR 6718), which would amend the Higher Education Act to clarify and expand the definition of “professional degree,” ensuring that programs like nursing, social work, physical and occupational therapy, and other health professions qualify for higher federal student loan limits that were reduced by the *Working Families Tax Cut Act* (HR 1; also referred to as the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*).
  - HR 6718 was introduced by Rep. Michael Lawler (R-NY).

## Home and Community-Based Care

### LeadingAge supports:

- *Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization Act* (S 2120) to reauthorize OAA funding at levels that expand access to community-based services like adult day and respite care, adequately support OAA-funded home care services and ensure adequate fiscal year 2027 appropriations for these vital programs.
  - S 2120 was introduced by Senators Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-LA), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Rick Scott (R-FL), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Susan Collins (R-ME), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Markwayne Mullin (R-OK), Ed Markey (D-MA), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM).
- *Well-Being Insurance for Seniors to be at Home (WISH) Act* (HR 2082), which would enable sustainable long-term care financing and expand access to services in the home and community.
  - HR 2082 was introduced by Reps. Thomas Suozzi (D-NY) and John Moolenaar (R-MI).
- *Credit for Caring Act* (S 925 / HR 2036), which would create a new tax credit for up to \$5,000 for working family caregivers.
  - S 925 was introduced by Senators Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) and Michael Bennet (D-CO).
  - HR 2036 was introduced by Reps. Mike Carey (R-OH) and Linda Sánchez (D-CA).
- *Fair Wages for Home Care Workers Act* (S 4081 / HR 7917), which would guarantee minimum wage and overtime protections for home care workers.
  - S 4081 was introduced by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA).
  - HR 7917 was introduced by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY).

- *Lowering Costs for Caregivers* (S 1565 / HR 138), which would allow the use of health savings and other similar accounts to be used for expenses for parents.
  - S 1565 was introduced by Senators Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Bill Cassidy (R-LA).
  - HR 138 was introduced by Reps. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) and Mike Thompson (D-CA).

## Medicare Home Health

### LeadingAge supports:

- *Medicare Home Health Accessibility Act* (HR 2013) to change the statutory language defining skilled needs for home health providers to align with other therapies and include occupational therapy as a qualifying home health service.
  - HR 2013 was introduced by Reps. Lloyd Smucker (R-PA), John Joyce, M.D. (R-PA), Paul Tonko (D-NY), and Lloyd Doggett (D-TX).
- *CONNECT for Health Act* (S 1261 / HR 4206) to permanently allow the home to be the originating site for telehealth services, remove telehealth geographic restrictions, allow a wider range of providers to bill for telehealth services, and allow the hospice face-to-face recertification to occur via telehealth.
  - S 1261 was introduced by Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI), Roger Wicker (R-MS), Mark Warner (D-VA), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), Peter Welch (D-VT), and John Barrasso (R-WY).
  - HR 4206 was introduced by Reps. Mike Thompson (D-CA), David Schweikert (R-AZ), Doris Matsui (D-CA), and Troy Balderson (R-OH).

## Hospice

- LeadingAge is deeply engaged in and working on some improvements to the *Hospice Care, Accountability, Reform, and Enforcement (CARE) Act of 2026* (S 4118 / HR 7966 /) to modernize the Medicare hospice benefit through program integrity and payment reforms. LeadingAge supports some components of the bill and seeks to adjust others that are not operationally feasible.
  - S 4118 was introduced by Senator Mark Warner (D-VA).
  - HR 7966 was introduced by Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA).

### LeadingAge supports:

- *Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA)* (S 2287 / HR 4425). The bill would support the training of interdisciplinary health professionals in hospice and palliative care and authorize grants to develop programs to train individuals to provide palliative care in hospital, hospice, home, or long-term care settings.
  - S 2287 was introduced by Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV).
  - HR 4425 was introduced by Reps. “Buddy” Carter (R-GA) and Ami Bera, M.D. (D-CA).
  
- *Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act* (S 575 / HR 1317) to expand the scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses to certify terminal illness in hospice and to bill for physician services under the hospice benefit even when they are not the attending physician.
  - S 575 was introduced by Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Cynthia Lummis (R-WY).
  - HR 1317 was introduced by Reps. David Joyce (R-OH), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Jen Kiggans (R-VA), and Lauren Underwood (D-IL).

#### **LeadingAge opposes:**

- *Medicare Advantage Reform Act (HR 3476)* to make MA the default enrollment option for Medicare beneficiaries and include the hospice benefit under MA.
  - HR 3476 was introduced by Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ).

#### **Medicare Advantage**

##### **LeadingAge supports:**

- *Improving Seniors’ Timely Access to Care Act* (S 1816/HR 3514) to standardize Medicare Advantage (MA) prior authorization processes, expedite plan decision making and ensure plan accountability.
  - S 1816 was introduced by Senators Roger Marshall, M.D. (R-KS) and Mark Warner (D-VA).
  - HR 3514 was introduced by Reps. Mike Kelly (R-PA), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Ami Bera, M.D. (D-CA), and John Joyce, M.D. (R-PA).
  
- *Prompt and Fair Pay Act* (HR 4559) to set Medicare FFS rates as the MA rate floor and standardize the timeframes in which plans must pay providers.

- HR 4559 introduced by Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX).
- *Medicare Advantage Prompt Pay Act (S 2879 / HR 5454)* to standardize prompt pay requirements across plans and penalize non-compliance.
  - S 2879 was introduced by Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN).
  - HR 5454 was introduced by Reps. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Linda Sánchez (D-CA).

**LeadingAge opposes:**

- *Medicare Advantage Reform Act (HR 3476)* to make MA the default enrollment option for Medicare beneficiaries and include the hospice benefit under MA.
  - HR 3476 was introduced by Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ).

## Nursing Homes

**LeadingAge supports:**

- *Ensuring Seniors' Access to Quality Care Act (HR 7096)* to change the two-year CNA training lock-out by allowing nursing homes that have resolved their compliance issues to continue their CNA training programs as long as their penalties are not related to the quality of care provided to residents.
  - HR 7096 was introduced by Reps. Ron Estes (R-KS) and Josh Harder (D-CA).
- *Enhancing Skilled Nursing Facilities Act (HR 7106)* would allow nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and clinical nurse specialists to provide certain care in nursing homes to streamline care, reduce delays, and improve access to services.
  - HR 7106 was introduced by Reps. Jen Kiggans (R-VA) and Debbie Dingell (D-MI).
- *Improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act of 2025 (HR 3954)* to apply hospital outpatient observation days toward the three-day qualifying hospital stay requirement so Medicare patients who spend three days in a hospital, regardless of inpatient or observation status, can access post-acute care in a skilled nursing facility.
  - HR 3954 was introduced by Representatives Joe Courtney (D-CT), Glenn Thompson (R-PA), Suzan DelBene (D-WA), and Ron Estes (R-KS).

**LeadingAge opposes:**

- *Nurses Belong in Nursing Homes Act* (S 3886) to require nursing homes to provide 24 hours per day, 7 days per week of registered nurse coverage and 3.48 hours per resident, per day (HPRD) of total nurse staffing, while giving the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) the flexibility to further delineate HPRD requirements or increase minimum standards in the future, regardless of the state of the nursing workforce.
  - S 3886 was introduced by Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR), Andy Kim (D-NJ), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Christopher Murphy (D-CT), and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT).
  
- *Safe Staffing Saves Lives Act* (HR 8100) to require nursing homes to provide 24 hours per day, 7 days per week of registered nurse coverage and 4.1 HPRD of total nurse staffing, to include 0.75 HPRD RN staffing, 0.55 LPN staffing, and 2.8 CNA staffing. The bill also includes new enforcement remedies for noncompliance.
  - HR 8100 was introduced by Representatives Lloyd Doggett (D-TX) and Jan Schakowsky (D-IL).

## Permanent Select Committee on Aging

### LeadingAge supports:

- Resolution to establish a permanent Select Committee on Aging in the House (H.Res.1013), which would serve as a dedicated forum to address the needs of older Americans in the House.
  - H.Res.1013 was introduced by Reps. Seth Magaziner (D-RI) and Maria Elvira Salazar (R-FL).