

OPPOSITION TO SB 1021

Hello! Madame Chair and members of the Committee on Human Services. My name is David Felt and I am currently the Secretary of the Resident Association (RA) at Holladay Park Plaza (HPP). I have also served as the Chair of the Health and Wellness Advisory Committee for the RA and have accepted the nomination for Vice President/President Elect for the upcoming election of officers. I am opposed to Senate Bill 1021 for the following reasons:

- The bill appears to protect residents of Retirement Communities, but in fact, it places residents at the mercy of a single resident who is focused only on their own needs. It gives a veto over decisions made for the financial and long-term stability of the majority to a single individual.
- If an individual demands that all services remain the same as they were at the time of admission to the facility, it hamstrings management's ability to adapt to changing circumstances and unforeseen events. It places the wants of the individual over the needs of the majority, regardless of cost.
- If this measure had been in place during the Pandemic Shutdown, facilities could have been required to maintain the same level of service regardless of the risk to staff and residents' health in order to maintain the "status quo" of provided service.
- SB 1021 does not offer any additional opportunities for residents to share information and register complaints that don't exist already. It takes away the ability of residents to negotiate changes that may benefit them and leaves it in the hands of individuals.
- Contracts at HPP already provide avenues for residents to receive ample notice of proposed changes and opportunities to provide input on the proposal.
- Given the uncertain impact of the many changes taking place under the current Federal Administration, SB 1021 would cause unnecessary restrictions at a time when adaptability and innovation may be critical for the survival of CCRCs.
- It requires facilities to continue to provide out of date or underused services regardless of costs or long term impact.