



DATE: May 1, 2025

TO: Chair: Representative Annessa Hartman, Vice-Chairs: Representatives Hoa Nguyen and Anna Scharf and Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services

FROM: Petronella Donovan, President, Independent Adult Care Home Association

RE: SB 1066

The Independent Adult Care Home Association strongly supports SB 1066. Within our adult care homes, we are required to actively practice fire drills and evacuation routes with our residents and staff. Many owners live in their adult care home with the residents for whom they provide care. Owners work hard to maintain a safe environment for their families, residents and staff.

While many owners live in their adult care homes, many of the actual homes are leased from property management companies or individuals. In these situations, the decision to install a sprinkler system may not rest with the adult care home owner but with the property owner.

It is yet another potential situation in which an adult care home owner may not be able to stay in their current home due to outside regulations and decisions in which they do not have a voice. If the property owner decides not to install sprinklers, then the adult care home owner has two choices: find another location for their family and residents that will meet criteria or close their adult care home and ask the state to relocate their residents. Neither option is attractive for small family businesses who have little if any wiggle room in their operating budgets and certainly do not have a safety net that would cover the expense of installing a sprinkler system.

Historically, adult foster homes expend their energy taking care of their residents, complying with an overwhelming amount of regulations and constantly dealing with proposals that, if pursued, would put adult foster homes out of business. It is exhausting. Yet, we continue our daily struggle to achieve logic, balance and dignity for our families, our residents and ourselves. Please support SB 1066.