

To: Senator Osten, Representative Walker, Senator Moore, Representative Abercrombie, Esteemed members of the Appropriations and Human Services Committee,

The Connecticut Home care Program is a great program as without it many people would end up in nursing homes and this would not be good for their health and this could be very costly for the state. As a provider, Lifeline Nursing is happy to be a part of this program but we now desperately need to be able to stay afloat as a viable business.

For several years now, Lifeline Nursing has found it very difficult to pay its employees given the rates at which the State reimbursed for services in this program. The reimbursement rates are far less than what we must pay our employees. Lifeline Nursing is asking for the 8% increase in the medicaid reimbursement rates for non-skilled home care to keep the Connecticut Home Care Program running smoothly.

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the five regional Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) in the State of Connecticut. These agencies provide services in all of Connecticut's cities and towns to older adults and persons with disabilities and they are doing a wonderful job.

Thank you for your effort in helping to maintain independence and dignity to the elderly while in their home in the State of Connecticut.

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