

Ensuring our LeadingAge NY budget requests are included in either the Senate or Assembly one-house is critical to our overall budget success! **Now** is a critical moment for you to contact your state legislators to urge them to prioritize nursing home residents and staff in this year's budget!

**Nursing Homes: Please CALL your state legislators as soon as possible!**

**1. Find your State Senator and State Assembly Member information [here](#).**

- Call the Albany Offices, and ask to speak with or leave a message for the Assembly Member/Senator.

**2. Talking Points:**

- I am calling from **Organization name**, a nursing home provider in your district.
- As you work toward finalizing your one-house budget proposal, I am calling to remind you that the majority of nursing home residents (over 65,000 daily) and their families depend on Medicaid funding to receive critical long-term care services.
- I urge you to prioritize the care needs of older adults and their families by restoring recent cuts to capital reimbursement and providing meaningful Medicaid increases to New York's nursing homes.
- Specifically, I urge you to:
  - **Restore the 15% capital cuts** enacted in 2024 and 2020. Capital funding is critical to maintain and create the safe, homelike environments that residents deserve. And, these dollars are crucial for us to fulfill our DOH-approved debt obligations.
  - **Protect and build-upon the nursing home Medicaid investments proposed by the Executive.** Ensure that last year's funding continues, add \$460 million state dollars to the Governor's proposal, and ensure that these investments are made permanent.
    - This level of funding is needed to address the \$1.6 billion Medicaid funding gap for nursing homes.
- In addition, I urge you to support the Executive Budget Proposal to allow Certified Medication Aides to work in nursing homes. This would strengthen our nursing home career ladders for CNAs and improve nurse recruitment and retention.
- New York State's Medicaid reimbursement is extremely inadequate and outdated. Rates are based on the costs of operating in 2007, and there is a \$1.6 billion gap when reimbursement is compared to costs.
- With improper Medicaid funding, we are struggling to attract and retain staff. Without staff, we cannot admit more patients.
- Reduced nursing home capacity in the State contributes heavily to hospital gridlock and delays in emergency and other health care services.
- We need the State to prioritize the care of our older adults NOW!
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- **Take a moment to explain how the capital cut and the underfunding of nursing homes impacts your organization and the residents and families you serve in the community.**
  - % of your residents who rely on Medicaid
  - Your organization's annual or daily financial losses due to Medicaid inadequacy
  - Staffing/labor costs
  - Staffing vacancies
  - Admission requests
  - Beds/Units offline

**After you place your phone calls, we strongly encourage you to [send a letter to your legislators](#)! It only takes a few clicks!** Additional nursing home advocacy resources are also available [here](#). We encourage you to engage your staff, board members, volunteers, and resident families in this critical advocacy!

Thank you for your advocacy.