



NH AHA Advocacy Group—2018 Legislative Wrap-Up

Let's take a look back at the 2018 Legislative Session and the outcomes of our collective efforts. The advocacy agenda set by the NH AHA Advocacy Group included:

Support the passage of bills identified by NH AHA as priorities:

1. **HB 1807**- establishing protective orders for financial exploitation of vulnerable adults, passed with amendment and was signed by the Governor. The amended version of the bill adopted the proposed change to the financial exploitation criminal statute but removed the civil protective order provisions. The Attorney General's Office believes that the revision to the criminal statute is a big step forward for elder exploitation prosecution in this state. AHA plans to file a bill in the next legislative session to once again attempt to establish protective orders for vulnerable adults.
2. **HB 628** – creating a paid family medical leave insurance program, passed the House, but was sent to Interim Study by the Senate. Despite heroic efforts by a broad coalition of supporters, this bill died in the end. AHA has already met with the leaders of this effort to communicate our interest in assisting with this effort in the next legislative session. Our goal is to make caregivers a more central part of the strategy.
3. **HB 121** - increasing the amount municipalities can collect for transportation improvements and **HB 347** - funding rural bus service, - were held over from the 2017 session and unfortunately both failed to pass.

Actively monitor or participate in the following work groups/committees:

1. **SB 161** - Commission on direct care workforce for long-term care. *Status: awaiting final report. Anticipate legislation to be introduced in 2019 to implement some of the report's recommendations.*
2. **SB 155** - NH Partnership for Long-term Care Plan workgroup. *Status: concluded. Ultimately the legislature decided not to move forward with Step 2 of Medicaid managed care, so long-term supports and services will not be transitioned to managed care.*
3. **SB 553** - Medicaid managed care implementation. *Status: undetermined. Given the decision to not move forward with Step 2, the work of the department is now focused on developing PACE programs (Program for the All-Inclusive Care of the Elderly).*
4. **HB 1817** - Demographic study committee. *Status: Commission was established and state demographer position was created.*
5. **SB 148** - Commission on Grandfamilies. *Status: continues to meet.*

Ensure implementation of the provider increases that were secured in the 2018-19 budget

1. Tracking contracts and/or amendments. *Status: on-going*
2. Building upon relationships with DHHS and BEAS. *Status: on-going*
3. Securing better data regarding demand/provision of services (CFI, Title III, Title XX). *Status: on-going*

Creating a Governor's Commission on Aging that will address all aspects of aging in NH. *Status: planning in progress.*