



February 22, 2022

Dear Representative Frederick,

On behalf of the Long-Term Care Imperative, a collaboration between Care Providers of Minnesota and LeadingAge Minnesota, we are writing to express support for provisions in the A22 amendment to House File HF 1754 that would permanently establish remote Adult Day Services.

During the 2020 peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Adult Day Service providers were ordered closed, resulting in the loss of access to a needed service and connection point for thousands of seniors and their caregivers. Through a state waiver during the public health emergency, Adult Day Service providers were permitted to continue to serve seniors through alternative, remote means. This model proved successful, helped address social isolation and ensured that seniors continued to receive needed services. Even today, as Adult Day programs have reopened, the option to provide remote services has proven valuable, especially in cases where Adult Day Service recipients may have to remain home intermittently for various reasons. To ensure this service continues on a permanent basis, beyond the federal public health emergency, this legislative change is needed.

Additionally, the Long-Term Care Imperative is working with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to amend two parts of the Value-Based Reimbursement (VBR) section of the bill. The first area relates to allowing nursing facilities to use an "individual coverage health contribution account" to provide employer sponsored health insurance. The second area updates the "method of accounting" language to reflect agreement from 2021 discussions with DHS.

Thank you for your continued work to ensure access to care options like remote Adult Day Services and your consideration of changes to the VBR section of the bill to better equip long-term care sites to serve Minnesota's seniors. We look forward to working with you and DHS as HF 1754 progresses this session.

Sincerely,

Toby Pearson

Vice President of Advocacy

Care Providers of Minnesota

Matt Steele

Director of Government Affairs

LeadingAge Minnesota