

OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER

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February 25, 2025

Colorado General Assembly  
Attn.: House Health & Human Services  
C/O Representative Kyle Brown, Chair  
C/O Representative Sheila Lieder, Vice Chair  
200 E. Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80203

Subj: House Bill 25-1184 (Community-Based Continuing Care for Seniors)

Prime Sponsor(s): Representative Amy Paschal  
Representative Anthone Hartsook  
Senator Dylan Roberts  
Senator John Carson  
Committee: House Health & Human Services  
Committee Date: 02/25/2025  
Position: Support

Chair and Members of the Committee,

Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and members of the House and Health and Human Services Committee. My name is Steve Schleiker, and I currently serve as the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder and serve as a Board Member for the Pikes Peak Area Agency on Aging. I appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of HB25-1184, a bill that I believe will significantly enhance care options for Colorado's seniors, particularly those awaiting admission to a life care institution.

At its core, HB25-1184 modernizes our approach to senior care by expanding the framework for community-based continuing care services, or CBCC, to include services provided in seniors' homes. This shift is crucial. Too many of our older citizens, who desire to remain in the comfort and familiarity of their own homes, are forced into traditional institutional settings when alternative models of care could better meet their needs. By allowing life care institutions to offer CBCC services, this bill empowers providers to deliver comprehensive care in community settings, giving seniors a broader range of choices tailored to their individual circumstances.

The bill also introduces robust consumer protections, which are paramount. It requires CBCC contracts to be written in clear, everyday language so that all participants fully understand the financial commitments and the range of services they will receive. For example, the requirement for detailed financial disclosures and clear contract terms ensures that seniors, and their families, are not caught off guard by hidden fees or ambiguous service obligations. This inclusion of a seven-day rescission period further protects consumers, giving them the time they need to review contract details and decide if the arrangement meets their needs without undue pressure.

Moreover, HB25-1184 emphasizes accountability among CBCC providers. By mandating that providers maintain separate reserves, submit annual financial reports, and adhere to specific examination fees, the bill ensures that providers are both financially stable and transparent. These safeguards are critical to protecting seniors from potential financial exploitation and guaranteeing that the care promised under CBCC contracts is delivered consistently and reliably.

Finally, this legislation recognizes the unique needs of our aging population by encouraging the development of group homes for the aged. By distinguishing these homes from traditional nursing facilities and establishing clear zoning guidelines, HB25-1184 fosters a living environment that promotes independence while ensuring safety and quality care.

In conclusion, HB25-1184 offers a thoughtful, comprehensive approach to expanding community-based care for seniors. It aligns with our shared commitment to preserving dignity, autonomy, and quality of life for Colorado's older residents. I urge you to support this bill, as it not only broadens care options but also reinforces vital consumer protections that will benefit seniors across our state.

Thank you for your time and for considering the positive impact this bill will have on our aging community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Schleiker". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

Steve Schleiker, Clerk and Recorder  
El Paso County