



2024 CCoA Sponsored Bills

Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly

AB 1993 (Assembly Member Kalra)

The California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing (CCL) Division inspects and regulates Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs), also known as “assisted living.” CCL determines the number of residents the RCFE is approved to care for based on the licensee’s skills, building features (e.g., up to two persons per bedroom), and staff availability.

Currently, in most cities and counties, private home RCFE operators are limited by local zoning and “use” laws as to the number of individuals they can serve, regardless of the size of the house or the number of bedrooms. RCFEs that serve more than six residents must obtain a conditional use permit from their city or county before operating. These permits are rarely issued and can be complicated for small operators to navigate.

AB 1993 would change the six-bed cap to ten or fewer to allow private home RCFEs, when approved by CCL, to expand the number of individuals they care for while still being considered for “residential use.” This increase in capacity will allow more older adults and their families who choose assisted living to remain in familiar neighborhoods or within proximity to their loved ones while also receiving the 24-hour non-medical care they need in a home-like environment.

State Boards and Commissions: Seniors

AB 2207 (Assembly Member Reyes)

AB 2207 would expand the membership of the following groups to include the Executive Director of the California Commission on Aging, the Director of the California Department of Aging, or both, the director’s designee or other persons that serve or advocate for older adults:

- the Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Advisory Committee;
- the California Health Workforce Education and Training Council;
- the California Workforce Development Board;
- the California Behavioral Health Planning Council;
- the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission; and
- the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

This bill promotes equity and inclusion, recognizing that policy should only be decided with the full and direct participation of all affected. To promote a "California for All," as prioritized in the Governor’s Master Plan on Aging, the proposals and programs of the State must include the representation and participation of older adults.

California Commission on Aging

AB 2620 (Assembly Member Bains)

AB 2620 codifies that the California Commission on Aging (CCoA) is an advisory body under the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act whose mandate is to advocate on behalf of older adults and adults with disabilities, the primary consumers of



services provided by local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA). The bill will clean up language and remove outdated provisions:

- Change the total number of members of the CCoA from 25 to 18 to accurately reflect the historical size of the Commission and meet quorum requirements more adeptly.
- Due to the significance and critical nature of AAA service programs, this bill requires at least two Governor CCoA appointments be chosen from nominees submitted by AAA directors or Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council of California, also known as the Triple-A Council of California.
- Remove obsolete language related to the Statewide Legislative Senior Advocates, also known as the California Senior Legislature (CSL). CSL is now an independent advocacy organization responsible for the selection of their delegates.

Mello-Granlund Older Americans Act

SB 1249 (Senator Roth)

SB 1249 seeks to modernize and strengthen the state's aging services system, established 50 years ago. The Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act establishes the California Department of Aging (CDA) in the California Health and Human Services Agency and sets forth its mission to provide leadership to the area agencies on aging (AAA) in developing home- and community-based services systems. Existing law requires the CDA to designate various private nonprofit or public agencies as AAAs to work within a planning and service area (PSA) and provide a broad array of social and nutritional services. SB 1249 seeks to conform with recent updates to the Older Americans Act regulations, taking effect on March 15, 2024, and directs the CDA, **"in consultation with AAAs and stakeholders"** to:

- Develop core programs and services for all AAAs.
- Develop objectives, key results, and programmatic and fiscal performance measurements for core programs and services.
- Update the intra-state funding formula for the distribution of federal OAA funds.
- Clarifies the right of counties to petition CDA to operate their AAA, consistent with federal law.
- Increase public awareness and access to aging services for all older adults and families, particularly for underserved populations, through a statewide engagement plan.

Looking ahead, California must proactively plan for a significantly larger population of diverse older adults and families seeking information, assistance, services, and support to age well in their homes and communities. The 60+ population is now over 20% and will reach 10.3 million by 2030. California will soon have more people over 60 than under 18, and more are living past 85 and reaching the century mark. Additionally, California is more racially and ethnically diverse; the gap between high- and low-income residents has widened, and there have been significant population and demographic shifts across regions in the state.

Please contact ccoa@coa.ca.gov with any questions on these proposals.