

Proposed Advocacy Priorities for 2025–26

The HCP Advocate 9.2.2025

HCP's Public Policy team has developed a set of proposed priorities to guide our advocacy in the coming year. These will be reviewed and discussed with members of the Public Policy Committee at the September 4, 2025, meeting, and we also welcome member input as we refine our agenda.

Budget Priority

We are proposing a request for the 2026–27 State Budget to include a targeted Medicaid reimbursement increase of at least 5% for personal care and home health services provided by licensed home care agencies (LHCSA). This adjustment is essential to cover mandated wage and benefit requirements, support critical non-direct care staff, and sustain the operating expenses required to deliver safe, high-quality care.

We are also recommending statutory language requiring that Medicaid reimbursement rates fully cover the actual cost of care. Provisions of [A1112 \(Paulin\)/S3599 \(Rivera\)](#) would establish a reliable and predictable reimbursement mechanism so that providers can meet wage mandates, stabilize operations, and keep taxpayer dollars focused on frontline care.

Legislative Priorities

Repeal the LHCSA RFO by enacting [A8137 \(Paulin\) / S7874 \(Rivera\)](#): To protect consumer choice and prevent disruption to care, we propose supporting repeal of the Request for Offers process. This change would safeguard small and community-based agencies and preserve the diversity of providers statewide.

Establish Regional Base Reimbursement Rates with [A1112 \(Paulin\)/S3599 \(Rivera\)](#): We also propose supporting legislation (if not included in the budget) to create regional base reimbursement rates that reflect the actual cost of care across the state. These rates would help stabilize the workforce by ensuring providers can pay mandated wages and benefits while sustaining high-quality services.

These proposals are the foundation of our draft advocacy agenda. We encourage members to share feedback or additional priorities in advance of the September 4 Public Policy Committee meeting so that the committee can consider the full range of issues facing providers. Please email your suggestions to the [HCP Public Policy team](#).