



3/25/2024

House Committee on Health and Human Services
HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov

Re: Testimony SUPPORTING House Bill H7969, giving residents of long-term care facilities the right to use electronic monitoring in their rooms

Dear Chair Donovan and Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Kathleen Heren. I serve as the Rhode Island State Long Term Care Ombudsman. I write you today in favor of H7969 the Representative Bill relating to electronic monitoring in nursing homes and assisted Living. For years I have strongly opposed similar bills as I was concerned for Resident privacy. After reading your bill, I am pleased to say all of my concerns have been addressed. This bill will provide residents and their legal representatives the option to place a monitoring device in their room. It will also give residents visual information when the Resident is unable to tell their stories. On the other hand it will exonerate Nursing facility staff from wrongly being accused of abuse. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at 401-785-3340 or kheren@alliancebltc.org.

Respectfully,

Kathleen Heren
RI State Long Term Care Ombudsman