

**Ohio House Aging and Long Term Care Committee
Proponent Testimony
HB 509 (Fraizer) Expedited Inspection-Assisted Living
Thursday, May 28, 2020**

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Chairman Ginter, Ranking Minority Member Howse and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on HB 509 (Fraizer), which would allow Ohio assisted living providers to request and pay for an expedited review when planning renovations or expansions of their existing plant.

It may go without saying that right now, renovations and expansions are pretty far from the minds of most long-term care providers. This issue was identified early in the year when this committee's members were seeking input on ways that regulatory burden could be reduced and operations streamlined in long-term care. Nonetheless, it is important to recognize that this current crisis will not persist forever, and additionally, that the legislative process takes time. We believe by the time this bill could be passed into law, our outlook may more resemble what it did several months ago and providers may again consider updating, reconfiguring or expanding their facilities.

Furthermore, it is good policy. Currently, assisted living providers can pay an additional fee to fast-track their inspection for initial licensure but this option is not available for subsequent licensure inspections. This bill would make the process consistent, while also allowing providers a more-predictable timeline than they currently have.

On behalf LeadingAge Ohio and those we serve, we respectfully request your support of HB 509 to expedite regulatory processes for Ohio assisted living providers. Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony with you today, and I am happy to answer any questions you have.