

Study Resolution

In-home and residential congregate care services for aging Virginians

Authorized by the Commission on December 16, 2025

WHEREAS, Virginia's population will continue aging, with more than 600,000 Virginians projected to be 80 years old or older by 2040; and

WHEREAS, localities in each of Virginia's economic development regions are projected to experience large increases in the age 80-plus population by 2040; and

WHEREAS, about one-quarter of the population in each region is age 60 or older and living alone, and an even higher proportion is age 60 or older and disabled; and

WHEREAS, many of the state's aging residents will be unable to remain in their homes without external services and supports or will need congregate care residential living options, such as assisted living and memory care units, to ensure their safety and well-being; and

WHEREAS, no data exists about whether existing home- and community-based services and supports, and congregate care residential living options, will be sufficient to meet the demands of aging Virginians; and

WHEREAS, state government is responsible for establishing operation regulations for these services, ensuring their quality and, in some cases funding them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission that staff be directed to review the availability and quality of non-medical services and supports available for aging Virginians. These services and supports include those designed to allow individuals to age safely in their own homes and congregate care housing, such as assisted living and memory care units, for those who cannot remain in their homes. In conducting its review, staff shall: (i) determine the current number of service providers, their services, and their existing capacity, by region and by whether they accept public funding; (ii) estimate existing and future service shortages, by service type and by region, and determine the reasons for these shortages; (iii) summarize what is known about the quality of these services, by service type and by region, and determine the primary contributors to poor quality; (iv) evaluate the effectiveness of the state's quality assurance mechanisms, especially its facility inspections and available sanctions/incentives; and (v) develop options for expanding the availability of services for aging Virginians, including through a potential Medicaid waiver.

JLARC shall make recommendations as necessary and review other issues as warranted.

All agencies of the Commonwealth, including the Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, the Department of Social Services, the Department of Medical Assistance Services, and the secretary of health and human resources, shall provide assistance, information, and data to JLARC for this study, upon request. JLARC staff shall have access to all information in the possession of agencies pursuant to § 30-59 and § 30-69 of the Code of Virginia. No provision of the Code of Virginia shall

be interpreted as limiting or restricting the access of JLARC staff to information pursuant to its statutory authority.