

Home Care Alliance of MA Verbal Testimony
Jake Krilovich
Joint Committee on Elder Affairs
7/31/17 Hearing
1PM State House Room A-2
Re: Home Care Worker Registry Provisions in S.343, H2068, H341, S.364, H2889

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony relating to the registry provisions within H. 2889, H. 341, and S. 364.

I am Jake Krilovich, Director of Legislative and Public Affairs for the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts. I will be brief in my remarks, but want to submit testimony on this critical issue as it will greatly impact the Massachusetts Home Care Workforce.

The proposals before the committee, as well as the proposals that were passed in both the House and Senate budgets all have one thing in common. They put our workforce at risk. All of these proposals require employers, not the employee, to submit their private information to the Commonwealth. This is inconsistent with other workforce registries that empower the worker to submit their information. We believe that by not having language that allows the worker to opt-in or opt-out of the registry violates their right to due process prior to the dissemination of their private information.

It remains unclear what public safety justification there is by allowing employer organizations access to these worker's private home address, gender or date of birth. It is important to note that our workers are already at risk by going into the home and any additional dissemination of their private information only increases that risk.

The Home Care Alliance requests that the legislature adopt Governor Baker's Amended Language to the Home Care Worker Registry in Attachment E of his FY18 amended sections, and would like the committee to consider this issue as they deliberate these bills.

Thank you.