

"The Direct CARE Opportunity Act will support innovative strategies to recruit, retain, and support our nation's direct care workers." REP. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT (D-VA)

# The Direct Creation, Advancement, and Retention of Employment (CARE) Opportunity Act

### **INTRODUCED**

September 14, 2017, H.R. 3778

## **SPONSOR**

Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA)

## **WHAT IT DOES**

Invests in strategies that promote recruitment, retention, and advancement opportunities for direct care workers. This bill would strengthen and stabilize this workforce, which will in turn improve care for older people, people with disabilities, and their families.

## WHY THIS MATTERS

Direct care jobs are the largest-growing occupation in the country, yet the poor quality of these jobs leads to high turnover among workers and sub-standard care for older adults and people with disabilities. In contrast, strategies that effectively recruit, retain, and train this workforce can transform the quality of care they deliver—an important outcome as the country's older adult population surges.

### BY THE NUMBERS

# 4.5 Million

Number of direct care workers across all settings in the United States in 2016.

# 5.2 Million

Number of direct care workers needed by 2024 across all settings.

# 88 Million

Projected population of people aged 65 and older in 2050. Between 2015 and 2050, this population will nearly double, growing from 47.8 million to 88 million.

SOURCE: PHI, 2017; U.S. Census Bureau, 2014

PHI works to transform eldercare and disability services. We foster dignity, respect, and independence for all who receive care, and all who provide it. As the nation's leading authority on the direct care workforce, PHI promotes quality direct care jobs as the foundation for quality care.

