



“This legislation will help improve the care offered by direct care workers and lower care costs for both older Americans and the health care industry.”

REP. MATT CARTWRIGHT (D-PA)

The Improving Care for Vulnerable Older Citizens through Workforce Advancement Act

INTRODUCED

July 27, 2017, H.R. 3461

SPONSOR

Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA)

WHAT IT DOES

Establishes demonstration projects that test models of care involving direct care workers in advanced roles—thereby improving care for older adults and reducing health care costs. These roles would notably support people with complex conditions such as Alzheimer’s Disease and related dementias, congestive heart failure, diabetes, and other chronic disease.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Advanced roles that allow direct care workers to handle new responsibilities—assisting with clinical observation and reporting, educating clients on health promotion and medication adherence, and supporting the care team—can improve care and reduce costs.

IN PRACTICE

In 2014 and 2015, PHI piloted an advanced role for home care workers in New York City, which was designed to maximize the value of home care workers in care transitions, while reducing emergency room usage and preventing rehospitalizations. While additional evaluation is needed, early outcomes show client improvements in preventable hospitalizations, ER visits, and medication adherence. The project also helped reduce family caregiver strain.

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.



PHI QUALITY CARE THROUGH QUALITY JOBS

400 East Fordham Road, 11th Floor
Bronx, NY 10458 | 718.402.7766