



October 14, 2021

Dear Members of the Kentucky General Assembly,

On behalf of Argentum's Board of Directors, members and staff, please let this letter serve as our statement of support for BR137 by Senator Alvarado.

This legislation will allow Kentucky's seniors the ability to choose assisted living care settings that can provide assistance with a range of care needs in less restrictive and less costly settings than institutional care options. It also allows assisted living providers to offer the level of care they wish from low acuity to specified health care services. Staff and provider requirements, including training, are commensurate with the level of care being offered under the legislation. This legislation will allow Kentucky's seniors access to services consistent with those provided in assisted living communities in most states.

Another key attribute of this legislation is the ability to offer specialized care and services to those seniors who have Alzheimer's Disease or other forms of dementia. By mandating specific requirements, including licensure, specialized staff training, and alignment with the Kentucky General Assembly's Alzheimer's and Dementia Workforce Assessment Task Force's recommendations, seniors will now have the choice to receive memory care services in a more home-like setting.

This legislation addresses potential consumer confusion by consolidating similar levels of care into one licensure category while preserving a provider's decision on the level of care they wish to offer.

Argentum member companies operate senior living communities offering assisted living, independent living, continuing care, and memory care services. Along with its state partners, including the Kentucky Senior Living Association, Argentum's membership represents approximately 75 percent of the professionally managed communities in the senior living industry—an industry with a national economic impact of nearly a quarter of a trillion dollars and responsible for providing over 1.6 million jobs.

We applaud the Kentucky General Assembly's commitment to seniors and strongly support passage of this legislation.

Sincerely,

James Balda
President & CEO

Pat Mulloy
Argentum Board President