



Your Nonprofit Home Health & Hospice Agencies

Testimony of Jill Mazza Olson, Executive Director
House Committee on Human Services

February 12, 2020

The VNAs of Vermont supports H. 611, the Older Vermonters Act. We have two specific language requests:

- (1) **Codify that the planning duties of the area agencies on aging under this act will be in consultation with local home and community-based providers.** Our language makes explicit that this is a community-wide planning effort, under the leadership of the AAAs.

§ 6205. AREA AGENCIES ON AGING; DUTIES (Page 8, as introduced)

a) Consistent with the Older Americans Act, **and in consultation with area home and community-based service providers, each area agency on aging shall:**

- (2) Eliminate 33 V.S.A. § 6303 (b). This provision is now redundant with other state and federal regulatory and planning processes in which the home health agencies participate including the Health Resource Allocation Plan led by the Green Mountain Care Board, IRS-required community needs assessments led by hospitals, and the planning duties of the AAAs envisioned under this bill and required under the Older Americans Act.

33 V.S.A § 6303. Home health services; local plans; board composition

- ~~(b) Upon initial designation or redesignation under this subchapter, prepare for the Commissioner's approval a local community services plan, describing the need for home health services within the agency's geographic service area and the methods by which the agency will provide those services. The plan shall include a schedule for the anticipated provision of new or additional services for the next four years and shall specify the resources which are needed by and available to the agency to implement the plan. The plan shall reflect public input from the residents of the agency's geographic service area.~~