

Residents Help Shine a Light on Nursing Home Finances



NJ Nursing Home Residents United members took center stage at a March 2026 hearing of the Senate Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee. The residents testified about understaffing and neglect. Dreadful food. Shoddy supplies. Buildings in disrepair. ... Separate threads weaving into a single, overwhelming question: *Where does all the money go?*

Senate Bill S2980 seeks to get to the bottom of that by requiring detailed, audited financial data from nursing homes and any related companies involved in their operations. Committee members approved the bill by a 6-1 vote. An identical bill, A4722, awaits a hearing in the Assembly Aging and Human Services Committee.

Residents United members Ray DiFrancesco, Gail Smith, and James Cook testified in person, and a statement by resident Tanette Clegg was read into the record by LTCO Director of Community Engagement Eliz Speidel. Ombudsman Laurie Facciarossa Brewer said Bill S2980 will provide needed insight into related parties — companies engaged in the nursing home operations that are owned by the same people who own the nursing home.

The ombudsman and residents were part of a broad coalition of advocates for S2980, including eldercare attorneys and representatives of the Service Employees International Union, AARP New Jersey, the League of Women Voters, and Disability Rights NJ.