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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NEWS**

Contact: Holly Lubart

(717) 221-7935

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**PHCA Says House Passage of Resolution on Provider Assessment  
Underscores Stakes for PA Seniors**

Care Quality of Commonwealth's Most Vulnerable Frail, Elderly, Disabled Jeopardized

**Harrisburg, PA --** The Pennsylvania Health Care Association (PHCA) today said House passage of HR 753, sponsored by Rep. Scott Boyd (R-Lancaster), underscores the importance of calling for the immediate federal release \$344 million in supplemental Medicaid funding to ensure Pennsylvania's most vulnerable population of frail, elderly and disabled maintain access to quality long term care.

"Lawmakers clearly understand the consequences faced by our most vulnerable seniors if Washington fails to provide the \$344 million Pennsylvania needs and deserves to maintain and protect quality nursing home care," stated Alan G. Rosenbloom, President and CEO of PHCA.

PHCA, SEIU and other advocacy organizations have warned for months that failure by CMS to approve and release these funds on a timely basis could precipitate draconian Medical Assistance (MA) benefit cuts, severe staff reductions, care access problems and even facility closures.

"We have worked long and hard with Governor Rendell, the General Assembly and many others to help ensure vital federal funds to protect our most vulnerable seniors are promptly provided, and the unfortunate delay from Washington is placing those most in need at risk," continued Rosenbloom.

"Pennsylvania cannot afford MA cuts that derail providers' efforts to invest in our increasingly over-burdened long term care system, and to ensure retirees receive the best care our state has to offer," he continued. "These funds are needed immediately to ensure our caregivers can continue providing high quality nursing home care, and to help ensure we have the staff and resources necessary to do so."

*PHCA is a statewide membership services organization representing more than 325 long-term care and senior service providers throughout the Commonwealth. Additional information about PHCA is available by calling 717-221-1800 or visiting [www.phca.org](http://www.phca.org).*

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