

**Senate File 536 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 536  
BY CELSI

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to the office of long-term care ombudsman and
- 2 making an appropriation.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. OFFICE OF LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN —  
2 APPROPRIATION.

3 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state  
4 to the office of long-term care ombudsman for the fiscal year  
5 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, the following  
6 amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the  
7 purposes designated:

8 To increase the number of local long-term care ombudsmen,  
9 including for salaries, support, administration, maintenance, and  
10 miscellaneous purposes:

11 ..... \$ 300,000

12 2. a. The funding appropriated in this section is in  
13 addition to any other funds appropriated from the general fund of  
14 the state and any other full-time equivalent positions authorized  
15 for local long-term care ombudsmen during the same fiscal year.  
16 The funding shall be used to support local ombudsmen in  
17 fulfilling their duties pursuant to section 231.42 including to  
18 provide the resources necessary to complete site visits and to  
19 carry out other duties to protect and improve the health, safety,  
20 welfare, and rights of residents and tenants.

21 b. To the extent possible, the office of long-term care  
22 ombudsman shall use the additional funding to prioritize site  
23 visits to nursing facilities that have changed ownership in the  
24 immediately preceding consecutive twelve months, especially  
25 nursing facilities that have transitioned to private equity  
26 ownership.

27 EXPLANATION

28 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
29 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

30 This bill relates the office of long-term care ombudsman and  
31 makes an appropriation.

32 The bill appropriates funds from the general fund of the state  
33 to the office of long-term care ombudsman for FY 2025-2026 to be  
34 used to increase the number of local long-term care ombudsmen.  
35 The funding appropriated is in addition to any other funds

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1 appropriated from the general fund of the state and any other  
2 full-time equivalent positions authorized for local long-term  
3 care ombudsmen during the same fiscal year. The funding shall  
4 be used to support local ombudsmen in fulfilling their duties  
5 including to provide the resources necessary to complete site  
6 visits and to carry out other duties to protect and improve the  
7 health, safety, welfare, and rights of residents and tenants.  
8 The office of long-term care ombudsman shall use the funding to  
9 prioritize site visits of nursing facilities that have changed  
10 ownership, especially site visits of those that have transitioned  
11 to private equity ownership.

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