



The Beacon

A Newsletter for Long-Term Care Residents

September 2025

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! ELECTION DAY IS TWO MONTHS AWAY

New Jersey voters will elect a new governor and all 80 members of the state Assembly in November. Even if you are not registered, there is time to make sure your vote counts.

Not sure of your registration status? Visit [VOTE.NJ.GOV](https://www.vote.nj.gov) and click *Register to Vote!* You can look yourself up or learn how to register online, by mail, or in person. The registration deadline is **Tuesday, Oct. 14.**

If you need assistance registering or voting, ask your social worker or activities director. Staff and Certified Volunteer Advocates from the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) also can connect you to someone who can help.

**We are committed to helping you exercise your rights.
Download our Voting Guide at [NJ.GOV/LTCO](https://www.nj.gov/ltdco).**

Once registered, you can vote in one of three ways—

1. **By Mail.** If you need to request a mail-in ballot, the deadline to apply is **Oct. 28** (by mail) or **Nov. 3** (in person at your county clerk's office).
2. **In Person, Early Voting.** Every county has designated locations where registered voters can cast ballots from **Oct. 25 through Nov. 2.**

3. **In Person, Election Day.** All polling locations will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on **Tuesday, Nov. 4.**

Accommodations are available for voters with disabilities at all in-person voting locations. ***If you plan to vote in person, check now to see if your facility will offer transportation or if you need someone to drive you to the polls.***

Visit
[VOTE.NJ.GOV](https://www.vote.nj.gov)
for polling
locations, early
voting details,
vote-by-mail
instructions,
and more.



Resident Group Focused on PNA, Nursing Home Finances



With only four months left in the legislative session, NJ Nursing Home Residents United will be working overtime, urging legislators to act on two key pieces of legislation:

- Bill A3908/S3319**, which raises the PNA from \$50 to \$140 a month and establishes yearly cost-of-living increases; and
- Bill A1872/S1948**, which would make nursing homes provide more detailed information about who owns them and how they spend the money they receive for resident care.

In New Jersey, nursing homes receive billions in tax dollars each year. Most of the nursing homes pay *related parties* — companies owned by the same people who own the nursing home — for important services such as food, staffing, and medication. Right now, there is no record of how the related parties actually spend the money. Did it go toward food, staff, and medication, as it should have? Or did it go toward profits for the owners?

Bill A1872/S1948 would require nursing homes to give the state consolidated, audited financial statements each year that would shine a light on where the money is going.

The legislative session ends **Jan. 13, 2026**. If the bills are not signed into law by then, the long legislative process will have to start over again.

What's next? Residents United will continue pushing to pass both bills.

Want to join the fight? Contact the LTCO Community Engagement Program at 609-690-4740 or community@ltco.nj.gov.

Leaf Me To The Exit



New Jersey Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman

Laurie Facciarossa Brewer, LTC Ombudsman

www.NJ.GOV/LTCO

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