

Statewide Coalition of Presidents of Resident Councils

BYLAWS

As of: June 2025

Name

The name of this organization shall be “Statewide Coalition of Presidents of Resident Councils [SCPRC],” “Executive Board,” or “E-Board.”

Mission Statement

As members of the SCPRC we are committed to be the voices and represent all our fellow peers who receive their long-term services and supports in a nursing home. We will advocate at State and Federal levels for quality care for individuals living in skilled nursing homes and for individuals who have transitioned to the community. We strive to be credible and informed advocates. We work with the Office of the State Ombudsman to develop and support legislation and public policy initiatives for the individuals we represent.

Purpose

The purpose of the SCPRC is to promulgate individuals to exercise their rights and protect their interests in matters affecting skilled nursing homes and community long-term services and supports. The SCPRC members will serve on a variety of public policy and advocacy groups. The SCPRC serves in an advisory role to the State Long Term Care Ombudsman. The SCPRC will present ideas and assist with the content of the annual VOICES Forum. The SCPRC will provide suggestions for the annual Carol Rosenwald “Spirit of Advocacy” award and Brian Capshaw “Rockstar” Award.

Membership

Membership of the SCPRC will be split into two groups: Steering Committee and Coalition Members.

Steering Committee: There will be a maximum of twenty-seven Presidents of Resident Councils – three from each of the nine Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) regions of the state, and up to three Resident Council Presidents who have transitioned from the nursing home setting to community-based living serving on the Steering Committee.

Coalition Members: Other interested individuals may join the SCPRC by initiating interest in the mission of the SCPRC or at the recommendation of the resident council president, Steering Committee, or LTCOP. Coalition members must currently be living in a nursing home or must have transitioned to the community from a nursing home within the past 12 months. There is no limit as to how many individuals may join the SCPRC as Coalition Members.

Administration

Executive Board By-Law Review and Revisions Dated 7/18/12, 1/16/13, 7/17/13, and 7/16/14, 7/16/15, 7/20/16, 6/19/17; 07/12/18; 8/08/19; 08/24/20; 07/08/2021; 07/14/2022; 01/30/2023; 04/19/2023; 07/25/24; 06/12/25; 12/11/25

All new members SCPRC will be provided orientation. The SCPRC will revisit its role at least annually to ensure that it is meeting bylaw responsibilities. An SCPRC satisfaction survey will be conducted annually. The SCPRC will meet as a group at least monthly.

Steering Committee: There exist two administrative roles, President and Vice President, which will be voted on annually in the month of December. Steering Committee members shall serve equally related to voting privileges and decision making. If there is a need for a tie to be broken, the President will be provided with two votes. Steering Committee members will meet privately at least monthly, in addition to larger SCPRC monthly meeting. The Steering Committee will review the mission statement and voting protocols annually. Steering Committee member will be provided with an LTCOP issued tablet, which will be utilized throughout the duration of a member's service on the Steering Committee. Once a member no longer serves as a Steering Committee SCPRC member the tablet shall be returned to the CT LTCOP. In the event that a Steering Committee member is unable to fulfill their duties or resigns before the completion of their term, a special election shall be conducted to fill the vacant position. The determination of a vacancy and the decision to hold a special election shall be at the discretion of the remaining members of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee shall discuss and reach a consensus on whether a vacancy exists and whether a special election is warranted. If the Steering Committee decides that a vacancy exists and a special election is necessary, the special election shall be held during the following month after the determination. The special election process shall follow the same procedures as the regular annual elections

Special Committees

The Steering Committee may establish special committees as needed and may choose to invite other individuals to join. Special committees will be evaluated annually to determine the ongoing need and viability.

Amendments

The Steering Committee may amend any part of these bylaws with a majority vote of the members present at a Steering Committee meeting of the SCPRC.

Quorum

The President or Vice President will determine if a quorum is present. In addition, any member can raise a point or order about any apparent absence of a quorum. There will need to be a total of three coalition members for a quorum. When a quorum is not met members there will be limited procedural actions that can be taken. Any business that is conducted will not be valid unless a vote or endorsement is made in a later meeting when a quorum is present.

Appointment and Terms of Office: Steering Committee

Term length of Steering Committee members will be determined by the member's willingness to continue serving on the SCPRC and his or her role as Resident Council President at their nursing home. If for personal reasons a member chooses to take a leave of absence or resigns his or her position, that request will be honored without question by the SCPRC and the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program. In the event of such vacancy, the State and/or Regional Ombudsman will recommend a Resident Council President from the same general geographic region. If a Steering

Committee member has 3 uncommunicated absences from monthly Steering Committee meetings the Steering Committee can vote to relinquish Steering Committee membership of that person. If a Steering Committee member no longer serves as the Resident Council President at his or her nursing home, then they can opt to become an Emeritus Steering Committee member for five years. Emeritus Steering Committee members will retain voting privileges and can serve on special committees. There will be not limit to the number of Emeritus members on the steering committee at one time. The Office of the State Ombudsman will be responsible for record-keeping and appointment terms of office.