



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN

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**STATEMENT OF STATE TREASURER SHAWN T. WOODEN
ON DEAL REACHED BETWEEN GOVERNOR LAMONT
AND SEIU 1199 NEW ENGLAND,
REPRESENTING THOUSANDS OF CT NURSING HOME CAREGIVERS**

Hartford, CT – Please see the following statement from Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden in response to the deal reached by Governor Lamont and SEIU 1199 New England.

"I continue to be proud to stand in solidarity with SEIU 1199 New England, which represents over 5,000 frontline workers here in Connecticut, including many nursing home caregivers. Over the past year, these men and women risked their own lives to protect our mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers, and they deserve to be treated with dignity and respect for their selfless service to our state. In this case, dignity and respect must start with raising their pay and getting them on a path to full healthcare coverage. So, I applaud the tentative deal that has been reached between them and the State of Connecticut.

As someone who has a mother living in a nursing home here in Connecticut, I have seen firsthand the unprecedented challenges these workers have faced and the bravery they have displayed over the past year. In addition to the immeasurable sacrifices they've made amidst this pandemic, nursing home caregivers are already inherently at higher risk of being exposed to COVID-19, due to the nature of their work.

During a crisis, like the one we are facing with this pandemic, the people and services that are truly essential to our society become abundantly clear. From the beginning of this pandemic, nursing home caregivers have proven to be invaluable in their ability to care for our most vulnerable residents during these unprecedented challenges. Their contributions simply cannot go unnoticed. I am pleased to see the State treat these essential workers with the dignity and respect that they deserve. Raising their pay and getting them on a path to adequate healthcare coverage are vital steps."

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