

2025-26 LEGISLATIVE GOALS STATUS

OCTOBER 2025



Bills Ratified in the 2025 Long Session:

The following bills relating to the NCSTHL Legislative Goals were passed into law:

❖ **Reference to NCSTHL Legislative Goal A – Adult Protective Services**

[Senate Bill 400](#) / [Session Law 2025-23](#) – Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams

Status: Enacted June 26, 2025

Summary:

- In alignment with the state's Adult Protective Services legislative priorities, the North Carolina General Assembly established Adult Protection Multidisciplinary Teams.
- This legislation strengthens interagency collaboration by formalizing county-based teams composed of social services, law enforcement, healthcare, and legal professionals to coordinate responses to cases involving vulnerable and at-risk adults.
- The statute enhances the state's capacity to protect older and disabled adults through structured, community-based intervention.

❖ **Reference to NCSTHL Legislative Goal D – Older Adult Housing**

[House Bill 357](#) / [Session Law 2025-58](#) – Continuing Care Retirement Communities Act

Status: Enacted July 3, 2025; eligible for amendment or funding expansion in 2026.

Summary:

- Establishes regulatory framework for CCRCs, including licensing, financial transparency, and consumer protections.
- Enhances housing stability and service quality for older adults.

❖ **Reference to NCSTHL Legislative Goal D – Older Adult Housing**

[House Bill 576](#) / [Session Law 2025-27](#) – Revisions to Authorize DHHS to Inspect Residences or Facilities Believed to be Operating As Adult Care Homes Without a License and Increase Penalties for Unlawful Adult Care Home Operations

Status: Enacted June 27, 2025

Summary:

- Empowers DHHS to restrict and penalize unlawful operation of adult care homes

❖ **Reference to NCSTHL Legislative Goal G – Healthcare Workforce Crisis**

[House Bill 67](#) / [Session Law 2025-37](#) – Healthcare Workforce Reforms

Status: Enacted July 1, 2025; implementation support may be addressed in 2026.

Summary:

- Streamlines licensing and certification processes.
- Expands participation in interstate compacts for healthcare professionals.

- Enhances workforce data systems and supports educational pipelines.
- Indirectly supports nursing home staffing by improving credentialing and workforce availability.

Legislative Opportunities for the 2026 Short Session

The 2025 Long Session was a very challenging session for the NCSTHL. No bills were submitted for the following NCSTHL Legislative Goals:

- Legislative Goal B – Senior Centers
- Legislative Goal C – Home and Community Care Block Grant
- Legislative Goal H – Nursing Home Staffing Standards

Several bills relating to the following NCSTHL Legislative Goals were submitted:

- Legislative Goal D – Older Adult Housing
- Legislative Goal E – New Community Based Services Program
- Legislative Goal F – Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Unfortunately, none of these bills made crossover in March 2025 (Crossover is the date by which most bills must be approved and pass out of the chamber in which they were introduced—either the House or the Senate—to remain eligible for consideration in the opposite chamber during the remainder of the legislative biennium. For the 2025–2026 session, this deadline was set for May 8, 2025)

In addition, while both senate and house bills were submitted for funding for STHL operations, this line item did not make the final budget.

Although, none of the Legislative Goals are in consideration for the Short Session, there are two ways NCSTHL 2025 Legislative Goals could be considered:

- 1) Several of the priorities relate to increased funding and with enough advocacy might have a chance for inclusion in the 2026 amended budget
- 2) A bill that made crossover could be completely gutted and rewritten

STHL advocacy for the 2026 Short Session will be very challenging. The Legislative Goals Committee will be evaluating opportunities and will present the Short Session Messaging Plan at the March, 2026 General Session or preemptively if needed.