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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Be an Informed Voter: See Where Candidates Stand on Home-Based Care with PHA Voter Guide**

**Lemoyne, Pa. (October 22, 2018)** — The Pennsylvania Homecare Association (PHA) has released its [2018 Voter Guide](#) to educate healthcare providers and the public on where candidates for governor and the U.S. Congress stand on issues related to the homecare and hospice industry. PHA is nonpartisan and shares the candidate responses unedited.

“Homecare and hospice professionals provide care to more than 1 million people annually. Many families will be facing difficult decisions about how to care for their loved ones in the near future, especially as the population of the state ages. When you enter your polling place on Nov. 6, it is extremely important to know where those who will represent us in the Governor’s Office and in Congress stand on the growing desire to remain at home as we age,” said PHA CEO Vicki Hoak.

Medicare, which pays for seniors’ primary health care, is overseen by Congress and the federal government, while Medicaid is governed primarily by state-elected officials. The decisions made at these levels can have sweeping impact on these two programs and the assistance individuals may receive.

A recent study by Genworth, a national organization focused on helping families navigate caregiving options, found that homecare continues to cost about half as much as nursing home care. Additionally, studies show that given the option, most people would prefer to stay at home to receive care in their later years or to remain at home at the end of their lives in familiar surroundings with loved ones. It is important to keep these options accessible to everyone, and voting for candidates who value home-based care is an important part of that process.

“November is recognized nationally as Homecare and Hospice Month,” said Hoak. “What a great opportunity to send a clear message to our elected officials that allowing seniors to stay at home for their care is a valuable right all should have.”

The free 2018 Vote Guide, as well as valuable resources for finding homecare and hospice providers, is available on PHA’s website at [www.pahomecare.org](http://www.pahomecare.org).

**About PHA...** The Pennsylvania Homecare Association is a statewide organization of more than 425 homecare and hospice providers. PHA members provide quality care and serve as advocates for their patients and clients on a variety of healthcare related issues. PHA and its members work hard to improve professional standards and ensure access to quality homecare throughout the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit [www.pahomecare.org](http://www.pahomecare.org).

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