

Community Choice Act (CCA)

The Community Choice Act would create a basic home and community service as an alternative for people who otherwise qualify for and are entitled to nursing facility or intermediate care facility for mentally retarded (ICF/MR) services.

Current law requires that nursing facility and institutional services be provided in every state, but home and community services are only an option. Optional services are subject to arbitrary limitations in scope and levels of services to be provided, cutbacks, and waiting lists. Study after study shows that most people prefer to live in their own homes and communities, yet these barriers persist. Additionally, home and community services are much less expensive costing two to three times less than their institutional and facility based counterparts.

CCA is co-sponsored by Senators Harkin and Specter and by Representatives Davis and Shimkus.