

# **LEVIN: Ombudsmen look out for nursing home residents**

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**To the Editor:**

I applaud The Times for Charles Stanley's recent article "You're the what?: Ombudsman looks out for nursing home residents."

As an attorney who has represented nursing home residents for more than 25 years, I have been fortunate to work alongside many long-term care ombudsmen and understand the crucial role they play in protecting residents from abuse and negligence. They tirelessly serve as the voice of this vulnerable population to resolve care and dignity issues and also work to educate residents and families on their rights.

This is especially important for residents who have no family or cannot speak for themselves, and families who are afraid to voice their concerns for fear of backlash against their loved one. I hope this coverage helps raise awareness about the great work of the Illinois Long-Term Care Ombudsmen program and encourages more people to call their ombudsmen when they suspect their loved one is not receiving the care or attention they deserve.

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