



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2015

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair  
House Labor-HHS Subcommittee  
2358-B Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member  
House Labor-HHS Subcommittee  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

Thank you for your ongoing support for programs that help older Americans live active and independent lives. We respectfully request that under your leadership the Subcommittee continue to fulfill the promise of the Older Americans Act by providing adequate funding for the Administration for Community Living's Home and Community-Based Supportive Services (HCBS) and nutrition services for fiscal year 2016.

As you know, the Administration for Community Living (ACL), directs programs that provide millions of American seniors, most of whom are low income, the resources necessary to maintain their dignity, health, and independence. Not only do these services enable seniors to remain independent and live in their own homes, where they prefer to be, but also save taxpayer dollars through reduced need for hospital and institutional care.

Area Agencies on Aging, created by the Older Americans Act and funded through the ACL, touch every community in the United States by coordinating care and vital services for millions of Americans. In FY2013, the 618 Area Agencies on Aging provided:

- 24.2 million rides to doctor's offices, grocery stores, pharmacies, senior centers, and other critical daily activities;
- 30 million hours of assistance with daily living activities including eating, dressing, and bathing;
- 8 million hours of care for dependent adults in supervised, protective group settings;
- 4 million hours of assistance in assessing needs, developing care plans, and connecting seniors and their families with public and private resources available in their communities;
- 86 million nutritious meals served at senior centers and charitable community organizations; and
- 137 million meals delivered to mobility-restricted seniors through public-private partnerships like Meals on Wheels.

HCBS funded programming, like transportation, daily living assistance, and case management empower seniors and their families to provide more than 80 percent of long-term care and support services in community and home-based settings. We respectfully request that the subcommittee mark include the President's request for Administration for Community Living Home and Community-Based Supportive Services at \$386,182,000.

Additionally, ACL nutrition programs continue the holistic service mission of Area Agencies on Aging by fostering companionship and social support networks through community and in-home meals. This is especially critical for the nearly one million seniors at risk of isolation due to mobility restrictions. We respectfully request the subcommittee mark include the President's request for \$874,557,000 to fund Administration for Community Living nutrition services.

These vital programs authorized under the Older Americans Act help fulfill our nation's commitment to maintaining dignity and independent living regardless of income or location. We thank you for your consideration.

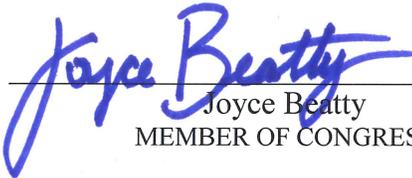
Sincerely,



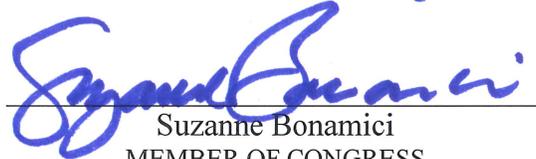
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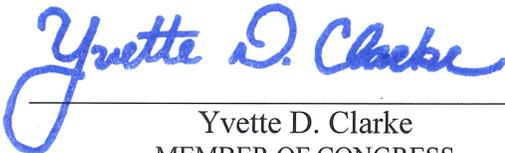
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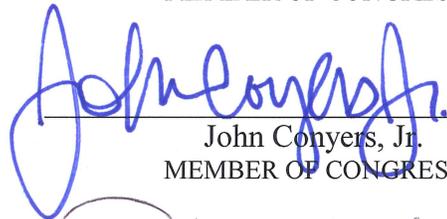
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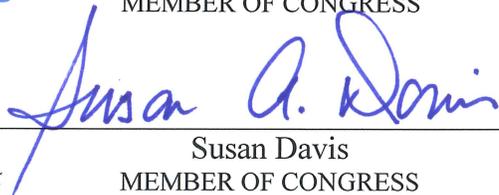
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