



Meeting the Needs of America's Growing Older Population

Background:

America is growing older. In less than 10 years, there will be more people over the age of 65 than under the age of 18. This aging population strongly desires to remain in their homes as they receive the care they've come to rely on. Unfortunately, the number of professional caregivers is declining, despite the increase in need. This predicament raises new challenges that our healthcare system must respond to.

In recent years, home care as an industry has become more visible, more relevant, and more vital to meeting the needs of an increasingly older America. Home care is the preferred choice of older Americans, a lifeline for millions of families with elderly loved ones, a set of eyes and ears for doctors to monitor patients, and an enormous potential source of savings to government and private health insurance programs.

Our Ask:

Please co-sponsor and support the following bills to help meet the needs of America's growing older population:

Build the Workforce:

[HCBS Access Act, S.762](#), sponsored by Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA), would:

- Increase Medicaid funding for home and community-based services;
- Classify private duty nursing (PDN) as an HCBS benefit and make these services eligible for additional funding;
- Provide grant funding for states to expand services for those who prefer HCBS;
- Improve the stability, availability, and quality of direct care providers to address the workforce shortage;
- Provide states with more resources so that caregivers have stable, high quality jobs;
- Provide training and support for family caregivers; and
- Create better evaluation measures to assess the quality of HCBS being provided.

[Better Care Better Jobs Act, S.100/H.R.547](#), sponsored by Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) & Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI), would:

- Enhance funding for HCBS by making states eligible for permanent 10% increase in federal Medicaid match;
- Strengthen and expand access to HCBS by broadening financial eligibility criteria for HCBS to federal limits and requiring coverage for personal care services; and
- Expand support for family caregivers.

Finance Care for American Families:

[Credit for Caring Act](#), to be reintroduced shortly, would:

- Allow an eligible caregiver a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for 30% of the cost of long-term care expenses that exceed \$2,000 in a taxable year.

[Homecare for Seniors Act, H.R.1795](#), sponsored by Reps. Adrian Smith (R-NE) & Katie Porter (D-CA), would:

- Allow tax-exempt distributions from health savings accounts to be used for qualified home care services such as assistance with eating, bathing, and dressing.