



Leadership Council of Aging Organizations

Barbara B. Kennelly, Chair

March 14, 2006

The Honorable Howard McKeon
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Michael G. Oxley
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: S.705 Interagency Council on Housing and Service Needs of Seniors

Dear Representative:

The undersigned members of the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) are writing to request your support for S.705, the Interagency Council on Meeting the Housing and Services Needs of Seniors Act, and to request that you bring this important piece of legislation to the House floor. The Leadership Council of Aging Organizations is concerned about the poor coordination between housing and supportive service programs designed to assist the frail elderly, and we request your leadership on this important issue.

The various federal agencies that operate housing and supportive programs include the Administration on Aging, Department of Transportation, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Health and Human Services, Veterans Administration, Social Security Administration and many more. This results in a poorly coordinated and inefficient service delivery system. The Interagency Council would offer these agencies a vehicle through which to coordinate their efforts on meeting the housing and service needs of seniors.

The LCAO strongly supports S.705. This bill has already passed the Senate with wide bipartisan support. We urge you to move this bill to the floor to ensure a coordinated approach to serving the frail elderly. We appreciate your leadership on this issue of critical importance to our seniors.

Sincerely,

AARP

AFSCME Retiree Program

Alliance for Retired Americans

American Association for International Aging

American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging

American Foundation for the Blind

American Postal Workers Union Retirees

American Society of Consultant Pharmacists

B'nai B'rith International Center

Catholic Health Association of the United States

National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

National Association for Home Care and Hospice

March 14, 2006

Page 2

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs
National Association of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Directors, Inc.
National Association of Senior Companion Project Directors
National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
National Council On Aging
OWL, The Voice of Midlife and Older Women
Service Employees International Union
United Jewish Communities
Volunteers of America