



100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
t | 800.664.3848
f | 202.544.0890
w | www.lutheranservices.org

March 18, 2016

The Honorable John Kline
Chairman, Committee on
Education & the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Scott
Ranking Member, Committee on
Education & the Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of Lutheran Services in America (LSA), I am writing in support of *The Older Americans Act Reauthorization of 2016, as amended* (S. 192), and to encourage all Members of the U.S. House of Representatives to approve the measure without delay.

LSA is a nationwide network of more than 300 Lutheran health and human services organizations that touch the lives of one in 50 Americans each year. Our members serve low-income, vulnerable people of all ages, faiths, and abilities in a variety of settings across the country. Nearly two-thirds of LSA member organizations provide services to older adults, including home and community-based services, such as adult day; case management; caregiver support; and senior nutrition services; as well as person-centered senior residential and facility-based care, including rehabilitation; health care; and respite.

As trusted community-based service providers, our members greatly value the OAA - from the programs it authorizes to the people it serves and the infrastructure it creates. We support efforts to strengthen and sustain the Act, and applaud your commitment to a bipartisan reauthorization process that achieves these goals. In particular, we are pleased that S. 192 builds upon the OAA's 51 year legacy by protecting the Act's core programs while upholding its mission to improve the lives of older adults and family caregivers.

Thank you for your bipartisan leadership in bringing forth S. 192. We look forward to House passage of this critical legislation, and stand ready to work with you to see the bill signed into law this year. Together, we can ensure the success of the OAA throughout this reauthorization and beyond. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Copeland, LSA's Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, at lcopeland@lutheranservices.org, or (202) 499-5832.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Haberaecker
President and CEO
Lutheran Services in America