

September 29, 2021

The Honorable Linda Sánchez
U.S. House of Representatives
2329 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Sánchez:

We, the undersigned organizations and companies who support the Credit for Caring Act (H.R. 3321), sincerely commend and thank you for your successful efforts that led to the inclusion of a family caregiver tax credit consistent with this bill in the legislation approved by the House Ways & Means Committee on September 15. As the sponsor of this legislation in the House, we appreciate your leadership, and we urge inclusion of the family tax credit in the final version of the budget reconciliation package. The inclusion of the family caregiver tax credit in the committee's legislation is a crucial step toward it becoming law.

Family caregivers are the backbone of services and supports in this country. They help make it possible for older adults, people with disabilities, and veterans to live independently in their homes and communities. Most of us are, have been, or will be a family caregiver or will need help to live independently. This is an ageless and nonpartisan issue. Family caregivers are all ages, races, and ethnicities and cut across all segments of our population. The physical, emotional, and financial challenges they face in their caregiving roles cannot be overstated and, for many, the challenges have increased with COVID-19.

There is also a significant economic impact as family caregivers provide about \$470 billion annually in unpaid care to their loved ones. In addition, they face out-of-pocket expenses to assist their loved ones as well as potential income and retirement savings foregone. An AARP report found that family caregivers spend, on average, 26 percent of their income on caregiving expenses or \$7,242 annually. Hispanic/Latino and African American caregivers reported greater financial strain. Assistance from family caregivers helps save taxpayer dollars by helping to delay or prevent more costly nursing home care and unnecessary hospital stays.

Your leadership and work with the committee better enables the inclusion of this important family caregiver tax credit in the reconciliation package when it is considered by the full House. It is one critical step that Congress can take to help provide some relief to family caregivers across the country struggling with the financial challenge of caregiving. We look forward to working with you to make this tax credit a reality for family caregivers in California and nationwide. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Richards at rrichards@aarps.org.

Sincerely,

AARP
ACCSES
ADAPT Montana

Aging Life Care Association
Allies for Independence
ALS Association
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Impact Movement
American Association on Health and Disability
American Heart Association
American Parkinson Disease Association
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health (AAPCHO)
Black Women's Roundtable
California Association of Caregiver Resource Centers
Caregiven
Caregiver Action Network (CAN)
Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's
Easterseals
Family Caregiver Alliance/National Center on Caregiving
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Healthcare Leadership Council
Home Care Association of America
Huntington's Disease Society of America
Japanese American Citizens League
Justice in Aging
Lakeshore Foundation
Little Tokyo Service Center
Lyft
Lymphoma Research Foundation
Medicare Rights Center
Mom's Hierarchy of Needs
myFloc
National Alliance for Caregiving
National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
National Brain Tumor Society
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Council on Aging
National Federation of Filipino American Associations
National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match
National MS Society
National Partnership for Women and Families
National Respite Coalition
National Spine Health Foundation
Parkinson's Foundation
Pioneer Network
PMD Alliance
ShareTheCaregiving, Inc.

The Elizabeth Dole Foundation
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers
Third Way
Triage Cancer
United Cerebral Palsy
UsAgainstAlzheimer's
Well Spouse Association