

May 25, 2021

The Honorable Joni Ernst
United States Senate
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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

Dear Senators Ernst, Bennet, Capito, and Warren and Representative Sánchez:

We, the undersigned organizations, write in support of the bipartisan Credit for Caring Act (S. 1670/H.R. 3321). 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.

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. 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. 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, nearly 20 percent of their income on caregiving expenses or nearly \$7,000 annually. Their assistance helps save taxpayer dollars by helping to delay or prevent more costly nursing home care and unnecessary hospital stays.

The Credit for Caring Act would create a new, non-refundable federal tax credit of up to \$5,000 for eligible working family caregivers to help address the financial challenges of caregiving. Eligible working family caregivers caring for loved ones of all ages could receive the credit if the care recipient meets certain functional or cognitive limitations or other requirements. This tax credit would help family caregivers who care for non-dependents or who do not live with the person they are assisting.

We believe family caregivers have earned support as they take on these costs and responsibilities associated with caregiving. We appreciate your bipartisan leadership and look forward to

working with you to enact the Credit for Caring Act this year. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Richards at rrichards@arp.org.

Sincerely,

AARP
ACCSES
ADAPT-Texas
Aging Life Care Association
Alliance for Aging Research
Allies for Independence
ALS Association
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Impact Movement
American Association on Health and Disability
American Heart Association
American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR)
American Parkinson Disease Association
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health (AAPCHO)
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Black Women's Roundtable
Care.com
Caregiver Action Network (CAN)
Center for Black Equity
Center for Eldercare Improvement at Altarum
David Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's
Esperanza
Estopinan TK2 Medical Treatment Foundation
Family Caregiver Alliance
Family Voices
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Healthcare Leadership Council
Home Care Association of America
Huntington's Disease Society of America
Japanese American Citizens League
Justice in Aging
Lacuna Loft
Lakeshore Foundation
LatinosAgainstAlzheimers
Little Tokyo Service Center
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
National Alliance for Caregiving
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)

National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Black Justice Coalition
National Brain Tumor Society
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Council on Aging
National Council on Independent Living
National Federation of Filipino American Associations
National Fragile X Foundation
National MS Society
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Respite Coalition
OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates
Parkinson's Foundation
Pioneer Network
PMD Alliance
SAGE
The Arc of the United States
The Elizabeth Dole Foundation
The Foundation to Eradicate Duchenne
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving
Third Way
Triage Cancer
USAgainstAlzheimers
Walgreens
Well Spouse Association