



NARC
Building Regional Communities

July 24, 2015

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

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

Dear Chairman Klein and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) and the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), we strongly support the Senate's recent passage of the bipartisan Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015 (S.192). We respectfully ask that the House Committee on Education and the Workforce consider the Senate passed bill as soon as possible.

NADO and NARC represent the nation's regional councils and development organizations. Many of our members operate the local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and deliver Older Americans Act (OAA) programs at the local and regional levels across the United States. OAA has been essential to developing, coordinating, and delivering home and community-based services that help older adults age with independence and dignity in their homes and communities. Additionally, the OAA service delivery model works well at the regional and local levels providing older adults and their caregivers a lifeline to dignity, independence, health, safety and economic security.

S.192 includes changes to several key OAA programs that we support; including streamlining federal administration of programs, promoting the efficient and effective use of elder transportation services, and improving coordination between programs at the federal, state, regional, and local levels. We also appreciate provisions in the Senate passed bill that provide program flexibility at the local and regional levels.

In closing, we urge you to reaffirm your commitment to our current and future seniors by reauthorizing the OAA. We stand ready to work with you and your House colleagues to ensure this bipartisan legislation is passed.

Sincerely,

Joe McKinney
Executive Director
National Association of
Development Organizations (NADO)

Joanna Turner
Executive Director
National Association of
Regional Councils (NARC)