

April 16, 2013

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

During 2015 we will celebrate key milestones in national aging policy history highlighted by the 80th anniversary of Social Security and the 50th anniversaries of Medicare, Medicaid and the Older Americans Act. We the undersigned believe this would be a most appropriate year to hold the next White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA). We write today asking for your support in initiating legislation to authorize the Conference.

This would be the sixth White House Conference in history and the second of the 21st century. Their stated goals have been to make recommendations to shape national aging policy for the ensuing decade. Prior conferences have served as catalysts for the later adoption of landmark legislation on behalf of older adults and their families.

Certainly in 2015 and in the time leading up to the conference there are a host of profoundly important issues to be discussed. By 2015, twelve million baby boomers will have already turned 65 with sixty-six million more to follow. A White House Conference on Aging provides a unique national forum for such discussion with direct input from individuals in the development of legislative and regulatory recommendations to you and the Congress.

Many of our organizations have been participants in previous White House Conferences on Aging. We recognize we are in an era of limited resources. As a result we support the idea of a WHCOA operated as a private-public partnership with specific outcomes and making optimal use of current interactive technologies. We hope you will give our proposal for a 2015 White House Conference on Aging your most serious consideration.

Sincerely,

National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
National Council on Aging (NCOA)
National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA)
National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP)
Women's Institute For A Secure Retirement (WISER)
AARP
ACCSES
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry

American Association for International Aging (AAIA)
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)
American Council of the Blind
American Psychological Association
American Society on Aging (ASA)
American Therapeutic Recreation Association (ATRA)
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare
Association of Assistive Technology Act Programs (ATAP)
Association of BellTel Retirees Inc.
Brain Injury Association of America
Easter Seals
The Gerontological Society of America
Gray Panthers
Gray Panthers Association of California Networks
Iowa Mental Health Planning Council
The Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA)
LeadingAge
Mass Home Care
Meals on Wheels Association of America (MOWAA)
Mental Health America
NAMI Greater Des Moines
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
National Alliance for Caregiving
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (NAPCA)
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)
National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services
National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD)
National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM)
The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Down Syndrome Society
National Senior Citizens Law Center (NSCLC)
Oklahoma Mental Health and Aging Coalition
OWL-The Voice of Midlife and Older Women
PHI-Quality Care Through Quality Jobs
ProtectSeniors.Org
Senior Service America, Inc.
Services and Advocacy for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Elders (SAGE)
United Spinal Association
Well Spouse Association