



*A Passionate Voice for Compassionate Care*

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Bob Casey  
Chairman  
Senate Special Committee on Aging  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Casey:

On behalf of the Catholic Health Association of the United States (CHA), the national leadership organization of more than 2,200 Catholic health care systems, hospitals, long-term care facilities, sponsors, and related organizations, I would like to thank you for introducing the *Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly X Act (PACE X)* and to express our support for this legislation supporting low-income seniors and people with disabilities.

Meeting individual's needs through all the seasons of life including old age is part of the mission of Catholic health care. The Program for Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is a successful model that has been adopted by many our members serving seniors and those with disabilities in their communities. Currently, there are 140 PACE organizations in 30 states and about two dozen of these organizations are wholly or partially sponsored by Catholic organizations.

The *PACE X Act* would strengthen and expand the successful PACE program to help meet the rising demand for those wanting home and community-based services. The wrap-around services provided by PACE have allowed the more than 55,000 program participants to have access to vital recreational, social, medical, mental health, nutritional and spiritual services helping them to thrive. The changes recommend by the *PACE X Act* would expand the number of PACE organizations while also ensuring that more seniors and people with disabilities can benefit from these programs.

Thank you again for introducing this important legislation and please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sr. Mary Haddad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "M".

Sr. Mary Haddad, RSM  
President and CEO