

March 14, 2006

Dear Representative:

The undersigned members of the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) are writing to request your support for S. 705, the Interagency Council on Meeting the Housing and Service Needs of Seniors Act, and to request that you bring this important piece of legislation to the House floor. The Leadership Council of Aging Organizations is concerned about the poor coordination between housing and supportive service programs designed to assist the frail elderly, and we request your leadership on this important issue.

The various federal agencies that operate housing and supportive programs include the Administration on Aging, Department of Transportation, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Health and Human Services, Veterans Administration, Social Security Administration and many more. This results in a poorly coordinated and inefficient service delivery system. The Interagency Council would offer these agencies a vehicle through which to coordinate their efforts on meeting the housing and service needs of seniors.

The LCAO strongly supports S. 705. This bill has already passed the Senate with wide bipartisan support. We urge you to move this bill to the floor to ensure a coordinated approach to serving the frail elderly. We appreciate your leadership on this issue of critical importance to our seniors.

Sincerely,

*AARP*

*AFSCME Retiree Program*

*Alliance for Retired Americans*

*American Association for International Aging*

*American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging*

*American Foundation for the Blind*

*American Postal Workers Union Retirees*

*American Society of Consultant Pharmacists*

*B'nai B'rith International Center*

*Catholic Health Association of the United States*

*National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys*

*National Association for Home Care and Hospice*

*National Association of Area Agencies on Aging*

*National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs*

*National Association of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Directors, Inc.*

*National Association of Senior Companion Project Directors*

*National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs*

*National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare*

*National Council On Aging*

*OWL, The Voice of Midlife and Older Women*

*Service Employees International Union*

*United Jewish Communities*

*Volunteers of America*