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