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July 15, 2016

The Honorable Ed Markey  
United States Senate  
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael Bennet  
United States Senate  
261 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rob Portman  
United States Senate  
448 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Markey, Cornyn, Bennet, and Portman:

AARP is pleased to endorse the bipartisan Independence at Home Act of 2016 (S. 3130) that would expand the Independence at Home demonstration project to be a permanent program in Medicare. We appreciate your bipartisan leadership to expand this program and help more people with Medicare live independently in their homes and communities.

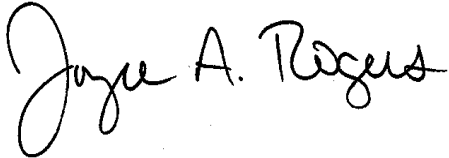
AARP has long been a supporter of the Independence at Home (IAH) program. This interdisciplinary approach to care leverages the expertise of an array of health care and social service providers to better deliver and coordinate care to Medicare beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions who need help with daily activities and have high costs. These home-based primary care teams provide access to care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They provide care at home, where people want to be, saving the time, difficulties, and stress that getting to multiple doctors' appointments can entail for those on Medicare and their family caregivers. Importantly, this model of care also recognizes and supports family caregivers and the vital role they play in providing and coordinating care for their loved ones.

We are pleased that IAH has shown not only improved quality of care, but has also produced cost savings of over \$25 million in its first performance year. Whether avoiding unnecessary hospital stays, ensuring appropriate use of medications, or better coordinating care, IAH benefits Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and providers, as

well as Medicare. Expanding IAH would improve the quality of care and provide person-and family-centered care to more Medicare beneficiaries.

We look forward to working with you and your colleagues on a bipartisan basis to make IAH a permanent part of Medicare, so it can help millions more people with Medicare and their family caregivers. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or have your staff contact Rhonda Richards on our Government Affairs staff at (202) 434-3791.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce A. Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Joyce A. Rogers  
Senior Vice President  
Government Affairs