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March 18, 2016

The Honorable John Kline, Chairman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Education and Workforce  
2181 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Robert C. Scott, Ranking Member  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Education and Workforce  
2101 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Scott:

On behalf of AARP, I am writing to express our strong support for your committee's bipartisan and balanced legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act (OAA). This carefully crafted bill reflects the culmination of over four years of bipartisan work. The bill assures continuation of the law that makes critical home and community-based services available to older Americans. AARP is pleased to support this balanced and pragmatic approach to helping older Americans live longer with independence and dignity in the homes and communities they know and love.

The legislation addresses the core concerns raised by AARP – the protection of a vital array of programs and services that assist, protect, nourish and sustain the nation's seniors to maximize their choices, dignity and independence in a fiscally responsible way. Specifically, the House legislation builds on the Senate's compromise bill, S. 192, endorsed by AARP that was passed unanimously last year. It delivers on a simple reauthorization approach that is fiscally sound, avoids major disruptive changes while improving coordination and efficiency, and protects core existing OAA programs and services, including Meals on Wheels, access to abuse prevention services, transportation assistance, job training, and support for family caregivers.

This legislation is vital to millions of vulnerable older Americans, and we support its expedited passage. AARP applauds your tireless work to make the OAA

reauthorization law. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or have your staff contact Joyce A. Rogers, Senior Vice President for Government Affairs at (202) 434-3750.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jo Ann C. Jenkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jo Ann C. Jenkins  
Chief Executive Officer