



The Honorable
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

Date

Dear Representative _____:

I am writing to request two important changes to the Older Americans Act: 1) Include aging caregiver of people with disabilities in the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and 2) Include future planning services for people with disabilities to be provided by Aging and Disability Resource Centers. I have a sibling with disabilities and these changes will positively impact my entire family and the millions of siblings and their families across the state and country.

The National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) was created by the Older Americans Act and was the first federal program to recognize the needs of the nation's family caregivers who provide the vast majority of long-term services and supports. Including aging caregivers of people with disabilities in the provisions for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) is very important to brothers and sisters of people with disabilities because as parents age, many siblings become increasingly involved in caring for their siblings.

Also, include future planning as one of the priorities within the ADRCs is of crucial importance to siblings as our families need to make informed plans for our siblings' future needs. As our parents age, our siblings' futures can become increasingly unclear. Unclear expectations and lack of resources about future planning often contribute to increased emergency situations at the time of the caregiver's passing. Including future planning as part of the ADRCs' role will help ensure smooth transitions of care for our families. A previous Senate version of the OAA Reauthorization (S. 1028) includes the addition of future planning services provided by ADRCs. We urge you to incorporate this addition in the House OAA reauthorization.

Thank you for your work assisting American families through the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. Including the roles that aging caregivers for people with disabilities will broaden the support to families who need it. Also, adding "future long-term care needs" as a priority for the ADRCs will benefit families and help them plan for the future in a way that will strengthen families and communities.

Sincerely,