

May XX, 2021

The Honorable Joni Ernst  
United States Senate  
730 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Linda Sánchez  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2329 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Ernst, Bennet, Capito, and Warren and Representative Sánchez:

We, the undersigned organizations, write in support of the bipartisan Credit for Caring Act (S. X/H.R. X). Most of us are, have been, or will be a family caregiver or will need help to live independently. This is an ageless and nonpartisan issue. Family caregivers are all ages, races, and ethnicities and cut across all segments of our population.

Family caregivers are the backbone of services and supports in this country. They help make it possible for older adults, people with disabilities, and veterans to live independently in their homes and communities. The physical, emotional, and financial challenges they face in their caregiving roles cannot be overstated and, for many, the challenges have increased with COVID-19.

There is also a significant economic impact as family caregivers provide about \$470 billion annually in unpaid care to their loved ones. They face out-of-pocket expenses to assist their loved ones as well as potential income and retirement savings foregone. An AARP report found that family caregivers spend, on average, nearly 20 percent of their income on caregiving expenses or nearly \$7,000 annually. Their assistance helps save taxpayer dollars by helping to delay or prevent more costly nursing home care and unnecessary hospital stays.

The Credit for Caring Act would create a new, non-refundable federal tax credit of up to \$5,000 for eligible family caregivers to help address the financial challenges of caregiving. Eligible working family caregivers caring for loved ones of all ages could receive the credit if the care recipient meets certain functional or cognitive limitations or other requirements. This tax credit would help family caregivers who care for non-dependents or who do not live with the person they are assisting.

We believe family caregivers have earned support as they take on these costs and responsibilities associated with caregiving. We appreciate your bipartisan leadership and look forward to

working with you to enact the Credit for Caring Act this year. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Richards at [rrichards@aarp.org](mailto:rrichards@aarp.org).

Sincerely,