



Leadership Council
of Aging Organizations

Debra B. Whitman, Chair

April 3, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary of the Treasury
US Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20220

The Honorable Andrew Saul
Commissioner of Social Security
US Social Security Administration
1500 Woodlawn Drive
Baltimore, MD 21241

The Honorable Robert Wilkie
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
US Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20571

Dear Secretary Mnuchin, Commissioner Saul, and Secretary Wilkie:

The Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) is a coalition of 69 national nonprofit organizations concerned with the well-being of America's older population and committed to representing their interests in the policy-making arena.

We are writing to thank you for taking the steps needed to use your authority to provide stimulus payments automatically to Social Security and Railroad Retirement beneficiaries. This will help millions of individuals by providing the needed stimulus quickly and without requiring the time, administrative burden and physical exposure needed to prepare and file administrative forms when the government already has the needed information to issue the relief intended by the CARES Act.

Please use your authority to also provide automatic payments to the very low-income seniors and persons with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income as well as low-income veterans who receive benefits from the Veterans Administration. We understand that Treasury, the Social Security Administration and the Veterans Administration can determine those SSI recipients and veterans who are not required to file tax returns and then issue them payments automatically. There is no reason that low-income seniors, persons with disabilities, and veterans should have to take on the burden of filing administrative forms, and navigating a complex process when the federal government has all the information it needs to provide the intended CARES Act assistance to these vulnerable people.

We are ready to help in any way we can.



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Sincerely,

AARP

AFSCME

Aging Life Care Association

Alliance for Retired Americans

AMDA-The Society for Post-Acute Long-Term Care Medicine

American Association of Service Coordinators

American Society on Aging

B'nai B'rith International

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Community Catalyst

The Gerontological Society of America

International Association for Indigenous Aging

Justice in Aging

Leading Age

Medicare Rights Center

Military Officers Association of America

National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys

National Adult Day Services Association

National Adult Protective Services Association

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)

National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare

National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care

National Hispanic Council on Aging

National Council on Aging

National Senior Corps Association

Senior Service America

Social Security Works

Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement