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

The Honorable Mike Carey U.S. House of Representatives 1433 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito United States Senate 170 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Linda Sánchez U.S. House of Representatives 2428 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Bennet and Capito and Representatives Carey and Sánchez:

We, the undersigned organizations, write in support of the bipartisan Credit for Caring Act (S. 3702/H.R. 7165), which would create a new, non-refundable federal tax credit for eligible working family caregivers to help address the financial challenges of caregiving.

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. Family caregivers are of all ages, races, and ethnicities and cut across all segments of our population. This is an ageless and nonpartisan issue.

Family caregivers provide about \$600 billion annually in unpaid labor 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, 26 percent of their income on caregiving expenses or over \$7,200 annually. Their assistance helps save taxpayers billions of dollars by helping to delay or prevent expensive 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 working family caregivers to help address the significant financial impact of caregiving. Eligible 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 working family caregivers regardless of whether they live with their loved one or if their loved one is a dependent.

We believe family caregivers have earned and need support as they take on the 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. If you have any questions, please contact Rhonda Richards with AARP at <u>trichards@aarp.org</u>.

Sincerely,

100 Black Men of America, Inc. AARP ACCSES **ADAPT Montana** Aging Life Care Association® Alliance for Aging Research Allies for Independence **ALS** Association Alzheimer's Association Alzheimer's Foundation of America Alzheimer's Impact Movement American Association on Health and Disability American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network American Geriatrics Society American Heart Association American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) American Parkinson Disease Association American Society on Aging Angelman Syndrome Foundation Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations **ASXL** Rare Research Endowment Foundation Autism Society of America Autism Speaks Black Women's Roundtable Cactus Cancer Society Care.com Caregiven Caregiver Action Network Care in Action **Caring Across Generations** Center for Black Equity Center for Medicare Advocacy **Community Catalyst** Critical Labor Coalition Davis Phinney Foundation for Parkinson's **Disability Policy Consortium Diverse Elders Coalition Elder Justice Coalition Elizabeth Dole Foundation** Estopinan TK2 Medical Treatment Foundation Family Caregiver Alliance **Family Voices** Fight Colorectal Cancer Foundation to Eradicate Duchenne Gerontological Society of America Givers

Grayce Healthcare Leadership Council Home Care Association of America Huntington's Disease Society of America Japanese American Citizens League Jewish Federations of North America Lakeshore Foundation LeadingAge Little Tokyo Service Center Long-Term Quality Alliance Lymphoma Research Foundation Medicare Rights Center Mom's Hierarchy of Needs myFloc National Adult Day Services Association (NADSA) National Alliance for Caregiving National Asian Pacific Center on Aging National Asian Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (National ACE) National Association for Home Care and Hospice National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) National Association of State Long Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP) National Association of Women Business Owners National Black Justice Coalition National Coalition on Black Civic Participation National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care National Council on Aging National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) National Domestic Workers Alliance National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA) National Fragile X Foundation National Health Council National Multiple Sclerosis Society National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (NPHI) National Partnership for Women & Families National Patient Advocate Foundation National Respite Coalition National Spine Health Foundation **NCNW** Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies New Disabled South NMDP/National Marrow Donor Program OCA - Asian Pacific American Advocates Paralyzed Veterans of America

Parkinson's Foundation Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers ShareTheCaregiving Inc. The Arc of the United States The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research Third Way Triage Cancer United Way Worldwide UsAgainstAlzheimer's USAging Village to Village Network Walgreens Well Spouse Association Women Impacting Public Policy