

GET THE FACTS

THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

In 2015, the Older Americans Act (OAA) celebrates 50 years of helping seniors age with dignity and independence in their homes and communities. Despite its successes, Congress has not updated (or "reauthorized") the OAA since it expired in 2011. The Act must be reauthorized to continue supporting the 11 million older Americans who rely on it each year.

WHAT DOES THE OAA DO?

- 1** Delivers supportive services, such as in-home help, transportation, legal services, case management services, home modification, & adult day care services
- 2** Feeds older Americans with home delivered meals and meals provided in congregate settings, such as senior living centers
- 3** Supports family caregivers by providing education, training, and respite to help families better care for loved ones
- 4** Improves public health through disease prevention programs
- 5** Protects older Americans by detecting and preventing elder abuse, through services like the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program
- 6** Connects older Americans to jobs, job training, & community service opportunities



#WeAreOAA

WHY SHOULD CONGRESS ACT?

OAA is a win-win for older adults, family caregivers & the health care system.

By supporting home- and community-based services, the OAA helps many older adults avoid costly institutional settings that can drive up health care costs.

OAA is always improving.

Reauthorization is a chance to update, modernize, and strengthen the OAA to better serve a rapidly aging population and promote the independence, health, and economic security of older adults and their family caregivers.

OAA is bipartisan.

Like previous reauthorizations, the current Senate Bill has support from Republicans, Democrats, and Independents.

GET INVOLVED

Congress needs to fund, reauthorize, and protect the OAA.

Contact your Senator today to express support for S. 192, which received unanimous approval from the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.