### **Ed Board Email:**

[Salutation],

As Congress and the Administration debate “care economy” proposals this summer, I wanted to make sure you saw [new polling commissioned](https://leadingage.org/sites/default/files/3W%20Insights%20Survey_Attitudes%20About%20Investing%20in%20Aging%20Services_6.2021.pdf) by the national organization [LeadingAge](https://leadingage.org/), which represents over 5,000 non-rofit aging services providers across the country. It shows that, despite our highly polarized political climate, a bipartisan supermajority of Americans want real support for older adults—and they want it now.

Highlights from the new survey include:

* 91% of Americans agree that older Americans should have the support and resources they need to lead a fulfilling life. (93% of Democrats, 88% of Republicans and 92% of Independents).
* 85% of Americans agree that every American has a right to receive a basic level of housing, healthcare, and essential support regardless of age. (92% of Democrats, 75% of Republicans and 85% of Independents).
* 86% say the government must make a bigger investment in services and care for seniors. This includes 92% of Democrats, 80% of Republicans, and 84% Independents.
* 85% of Americans agree that now is the right time to think about building a better aging services system for our seniors.
  + 91% of Democrats, 83% of Independents and 80% of Republicans agree now is the time to think about building a better system for seniors.
  + Support is nearly consistent regardless of where Americans live, with 85% of urban Americans, 87% of suburban Americans, and 82% of rural Americans agreeing.
* Only 22% of Americans think the amount of money we spend on older people is too high. This includes 14% of Republicans, 13% of Independents, and 31% of Democrats.

Overall, **83% of Americans say that elected officials have failed older adults and the people who care for them by ignoring and underfunding America's aging services for decades.** The gaps and shortcomings of our government's system have created unnecessary hardship and struggle for too many families who cannot access or afford the care they need. This sentiment is consistent across locales, with 85% of Americans in rural settings, 83% in urban settings, and 83% in suburban areas agreeing.

No matter their political affiliation, or whether they call the city, suburbs or country home, Americans agree -- the time to fix aging services is now.

Sincerely,

[XXX]