



September 17, 2021

The Honorable Maxine Waters  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Financial Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Waters:

On behalf of LeadingAge, thank you for your steadfast leadership in support of affordable housing investments for older adults with low incomes, including the historic affordable housing investments in the House Committee on Financial Services reconciliation bill.

The Committee's reconciliation bill recognizes the severe shortage of affordable senior housing. All told, LeadingAge estimates 894,984 low income older adults will benefit from the critical affordable housing investments in the House Committee on Financial Services reconciliation bill by providing rental assistance to 250,689 low income older adult households, rehabilitating and preserving 402,711 homes of low income older adults, and expanding the supply of affordable housing for low income older adults by 241,523 units.

LeadingAge represents more than 5,000 nonprofit aging services providers, including affordable senior housing providers and other mission-minded organizations that touch millions of lives every day. Alongside our members and 38 state partners, we use applied research, advocacy, education, and community-building to make America a better place to grow old. Our membership encompasses the continuum of services for people as they age.

Several pieces of the Committee's reconciliation bill are of particular importance to older adults:

- \$2.4 billion for new Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly. These funds will build 35,564 homes with Service Coordinators, ensuring more very low income older adults will have the affordable housing and access to services they need. The new technical assistance center will help states better align housing and services to greatly expand the ability of low income older adults to age in community.
- \$15 billion for new Project-Based Rental Assistance contracts.
- \$71.43 billion for new homes under the HOME and Housing Trust Fund programs.

- \$48.5 billion for new Housing Choice Vouchers, including a greater share that can be project-based when used for service-connected affordable senior housing.
- Additional funding to preserve, improve, rehabilitate existing homes.

Older adults and aging services providers are desperate for these investments and are deeply grateful for your leadership to secure them. LeadingAge stands ready to support the funding levels in your Committee's bill through enactment, which cannot come soon enough.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Smith Sloan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Katie Smith Sloan  
President and CEO

cc: The Honorable John Yarmuth, Chair, House Committee on the Budget