May 31, 2012
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative,

The Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO), a broad-based coalition of national non-profit organizations that represent over 60 million older adults, supports the "Medicare Advantage Program Integrity Act (MAPI),” H.R. 4254.

This legislation takes the right approach to strengthening Medicare by cutting programmatic waste through correcting and more accurately paying private insurance companies. H.R. 4254 adjusts payments to private Medicare health plans, also known as Medicare Advantage plans, to more accurately reflect enrollees’ health status. In addition, MAPI would delay pre-payments to Medicare Advantage plans, which would prevent insurance companies from holding this funding as investment income.

These sensible changes are in direct response to recommendations made by the General Accountability Office and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General. Initial estimates demonstrate that H.R. 4254 would save more than $20 billion over ten years without cutting benefits or making care more expensive for the people that Medicare serves.

We must work together to find solutions that strengthen Medicare so that beneficiaries continue to receive affordable and quality coverage. The "Medicare Advantage Program Integrity Act (MAPI),” and similar reforms, demonstrates that there are options to preserve Medicare that do not involve dismantling the program or shifting costs to beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

AFL-CIO
AFSME
AGHDHBCU
Alliance for Retired Americans
Alzheimer’s Foundation of America
Association of Jewish Aging Services (AJAS)
B’nai B rith International
Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc.
Easter Seals
Families USA
Gray Panthers
Medicare Rights Center
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA)
NAELA
National Association for Home Care & Hospice
National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP)
National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers
National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD)
The National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc. (NCBA)
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
The National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Senior Citizens Law Center (NSCLC)
OWL
Pension Rights Center
SAGE
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC)
Wider Opportunities for Women