



# Leadership Council of Aging Organizations

*Barbara B. Kennelly, Chair*

April 3, 2006

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Via Fax

Dear Representative,

The undersigned members of the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations (LCAO) strongly encourage you to promote the restoration of funding for domestic discretionary spending in the House Budget Resolution that at least maintains the FY 2005 budget level, as adjusted for inflation. If leadership does not move ahead with such a restoration, we urge you to vote against the Budget Resolution when it reaches the House floor.

As national organizations that provide service to older Americans, we support a responsible House Budget Resolution that achieves a fair balance between addressing the nation's long-term budget deficit and preserving vital programs that help to sustain, protect, and strengthen our families and communities. We believe that it is crucial for the federal government to make adequate investments in our nation's communities and that we are all stronger when the most vulnerable among us are better off.

Discretionary spending is a main source of funding for a variety of crucial federal programs that are essential to millions of America's seniors, including caregiver support, housing, Meals On Wheels and congregate meals, home and community-based care, transportation, long-term care ombudsman, legal services and many others. These programs and the people they serve are not the primary cause of our current budget deficit and they should not bear a disproportionate share of the burden of deficit reduction.

Please urge House leaders not to cut domestic discretionary spending. Please vote against the House Budget Resolution if it does not maintain domestic discretionary funding at at least FY 2005 levels as adjusted for inflation.

Respectfully yours,

*Alliance for Retired Americans  
Alzheimer's Association  
American Association for International Aging  
American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging  
American Foundation for the Blind  
American Geriatrics Society  
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists  
American Society on Aging  
Association of Jewish Aging Services of North America*

*B'nai B'rith International Center*  
*Experience Works*  
*Families USA*  
*The Gerontological Society of America*  
*International Union, United Auto Workers*  
*Meals On Wheels Association of America*  
*National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys*  
*National Asian Pacific Center on Aging*  
*National Association of Area Agencies on Aging*  
*National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs*  
*National Association of Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Directors, Inc.*  
*National Association of Senior Companion Project Directors*  
*National Association of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs*  
*National Association of State Units on Aging*  
*National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc.*  
*National Citizens' Coalition for Nursing Home Reform*  
*National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare*  
*National Council On Aging*  
*National Indian Council on Aging, Inc.*  
*National Senior Citizens Law Center*  
*OWL, The Voice of Midlife and Older Women*  
*Service Employees International Union*  
*United Jewish Communities*  
*Volunteers of America*