



Leadership Council of Aging Organizations

James Firman, Chair

Minutes
September 6, 2017
1625 L Street, NW

1. Guest Speaker: **Wendell Primus** – Senior Policy Advisor, Office of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
 - Thank you for efforts on ACA, but debate isn't over.
 - Unclear how CSRs will move.
 - Working on CHIP and other extenders. More likely to be done in December. Also need to address Puerto Rico, Medicaid cliff, Hurricane relief.
 - Price tag of tax legislation a concern.
 - Need to educate Congress about tradeoffs, what investments should be prioritized. Need for future Medicare and Social Security revenues due to aging demographics.
 - Making progress on budget cap discussions, but not on parity yet.
2. Approval of the Minutes
 - Approved by voice vote
3. Committee Reports
 - Community Services
 - Didn't meet in August.
 - Focus on Labor-HHS movement in House in Senate.
 - NDD RaisettheCaps rally today will be live-streamed on FB. Follow along at #RaisettheCaps.
 - Letter being drafted in support of bipartisan Care Corps Demonstration bill.
 - Lance Robertson confirmed – expect as speaker at October meeting.
 - Health
 - LCAO sign-on letter on ACA Section 1557 protections against discrimination. Group will make edits and letter will be circulated for sign-ons.
 - Medicaid HCBS sign-on letter on Maine section 1115 waiver to express concern that it goes beyond the waiver process. Will circulate for signatures – due Sept. 14. Health Committee planning broader discussion on waivers.
 - Discussed marketplace stabilization - where organizations stand and potential common messaging.
 - Planning to finalize letter on extenders in September.
 - LCAO support for Medicare Home Health rural add-on extension proposed by NAHC. Not an issue LCAO has weighed in on before. Will continue to discuss whether to add to future extenders letter.
 - Concern about Medicare Home Health payment proposed rule. Will circulate non-LCAO sign-on letter. Comments due September 25. Conference call suggested to educate LCAO members.
 - Income Security
 - August meeting held as conference call.
 - Approved LCAO letter for responding to budget resolution, focused on SSDI and UI.
 - Americans for Tax Fairness presented on upcoming tax reform debate. Will share more in tax discussion.
 - Discussed Social Security commission legislation introduced by Reps. Delaney and Peters. Alliance for Retired Americans mobilizing people in MD and CA, having discussions with offices.
 - Discussed future speakers and goals.
 - Ways and Means hearing today on disability insurance.
 - Non-LCAO sign-on letter to CMS to extend Medicare time-limited equitable relief to be circulated next week. Ending in September, and urging it be extended.

4. Tax Reform Discussion

- Recap of Income Security discussion with Americans for Tax Fairness.
 - House budget resolution scheduled to move in September or October.
 - Three different options – deficit neutral, revenue neutral, deficit losing. House budget resolution calls for deficit neutral, i.e. taxes paid for with cuts elsewhere. LCAO has supported revenue neutral in the past, i.e., taxes paid for with other tax/revenue changes.
 - What's being planned now will affect seniors' programs later, if deficit grows.
 - Income Security Committee discussed particular items of concern, such as payroll tax holiday and changes to the medical expense deduction.
- Discussion of potential LCAO messaging
 - Broad set of principles
 - Could mirror messaging like Senate Democrats' letter.
 - Concerns re: growing deficits triggering future entitlement cuts.
 - Progressivity?
 - Process concerns, regular order?
 - Specific provisions of interest
 - Medical expense deduction.
 - Tax treatment of retirement savings.
 - Charitable deduction.
 - Advocate for caregiver credit?
 - Presentations by outside speakers
 - Need to be mindful of timing.
 - Working on scheduling a meeting with Kara Getz, Ways & Means Democratic Senior Counsel.
 - Education needed on effect of programs for seniors and poor.
 - Next steps: bring in outside speakers and draft principles, possible sign-on letter.

5. Announcements

- WISER: Symposium on Retirement Solutions for Women on Tuesday, September 19, 2017, from 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm (with reception to follow), at the Capitol View Conference Center (101 Constitution Avenue NW). See flyer.
- Potential interest in LCAO weighing in on DACA.

Next Meeting: October 4