

# PETITION TO CONGRESS: STOP THE FY26 HHS CUTS THAT THREATEN THE LIVES AND DIGNITY OF OLDER AMERICANS

## **Advocacy Letter on the Proposed FY26 HHS Budget Cuts**

The Honorable Chairs and Ranking Members of the Appropriations Committees  
United States Senate and House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

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### **Dear Appropriators,**

I am writing to express **deep concern** regarding the recently proposed FY26 budget for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The draft budget includes drastic restructuring and severe cuts to vital programs that support older Americans, individuals with disabilities, and vulnerable communities. As one of your constituents, **I urge you to oppose these harmful reductions** and advocate for full funding and preservation of these critical services.

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### **Program Relocations and Eliminations**

Programs like Congregate Nutrition, Home-Delivered Nutrition, the Nutrition Services Incentive Program, Supportive Services, Senior Centers, and National Family Caregiver Support would be moved to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) with only level funding. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention programs would see funding **eliminated entirely**.

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### **Health and Prevention Cuts**

The elimination of the **Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF)** would decimate falls prevention initiatives, chronic disease management, and Alzheimer's support programs — lifelines millions of older adults depend on.

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### **Elder Rights and Protection Programs**

Programs like the **Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program** and **Adult Protective Services** would face over **80% funding cuts**, leaving seniors vulnerable to abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

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## **Loss of Aging Network Supports**

Eliminations would include the **Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)**, **Medicare State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIIP)**, and **Lifespan Respite Care**, removing critical navigational and caregiving supports for aging Americans.

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## **Elimination of CDC Injury Center Initiatives**

The proposal would shutter the **CDC Injury Center**, ending programs like **STEADI (Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries)** — crippling vital elder falls prevention research and outreach.

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## **Call to Action: Stand Up for Our Seniors!**

Every day, **11,000 Americans turn 65**. Cutting these programs will **devastate quality of life, increase healthcare costs, and undermine public health**.

We respectfully urge you to:

-  **Oppose** the elimination of the Prevention and Public Health Fund.
  -  **Protect** elder rights programs like the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.
  -  **Preserve** nutrition, caregiver support, and chronic disease management initiatives.
  -  **Safeguard** the ADRCs and the SHIIP program.
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**Our seniors deserve dignity, safety, and support — not abandonment. We urge you to act now to protect America's older adults.**

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your leadership.

*Please sign this petition and make your voice heard. Together, we can protect the foundation of support for older Americans before it's dismantled.*

[Signature]  
[Your Name]  
[City/ State]

[Email/Phone- optional for organizing Follow-up]