



National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs

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NANASP Resolutions 2013

Sequestration

Current status: Sequestration (across the board cuts) was imposed on hundreds of programs on March 1. This included the Older Americans Act. Sequestration unless changed by Congress remains in effect for each of the next nine fiscal years.

NANASP supports the end of sequestration not later than September 30, 2013, or if opportunities arise before that, the exemption of senior nutrition programs from sequestration.

Older Americans Act

Current status: The Older Americans Act (OAA) is now two years late in being reauthorized. Legislation was introduced by Senator Bernie Sanders in the last Congress but it was not acted upon. On May 23, 2013, Senator Sanders introduced S.1028 to reauthorize the OAA for five years.

NANASP supports S.1028 as the first bill of the 113th Congress to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. NANASP further supports a bipartisan, bicameral reauthorization process which will protect and strengthen the core services in the Act. NANASP is especially supportive of the protection of nutrition funding from reductions or diversions. NANASP supports the continuation of the existing Titles III C1 (congregate meals) and C2 (home delivered meals) programs as well as the continued use of voluntary contributions in the program.

OAA Title V Cuts

Current status: The President's FY 2014 budget singled out the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) program for a cut of \$67.6 million.

NANASP strongly opposes the proposed reduction for the SCSEP program and urges the Congress to maintain at least the current funding level of \$447.6 million for FY 2014. The SCSEP program is vital for the success of the nutrition program and a cut of this size on top of sequestration will impact our members' programs greatly.

Farm Bill

Current status: The Senate and House are considering different versions of a five-year extension of the programs and services under the Farm Bill. The bills vary a great deal on funding levels for important nutrition programs including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for low-income older adults and others.

NANASP's vision is to reshape the future of nutrition and healthy aging.

NANASP's mission is to strengthen through advocacy and education those who help older Americans.



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NANASP supports the Senate version of the Farm Bill because it does less harm to key nutrition programs including SNAP, the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), SNAP Education (SNAP-Ed), the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program. NANASP supports the Senate Farm Bill's SNAP-Ed provisions which would maintain SNAP-Ed at current funding levels and add physical activity as an eligible use of the program.

Chained CPI

Current status: President Obama's FY 2014 contained a proposal to change the way the annual cost of living increase given to Social Security recipients is provided. The so called chained CPI would result in an estimated loss of \$112 billion in benefits for current and future Social Security beneficiaries from the lowering of the way the cost of living increase is calculated.

NANASP strongly opposes the chained CPI. For close to one-third of older citizens, Social Security is 90 percent or more of their income, so any reduction in benefits will be especially difficult. Further, Social Security reform should be done separately from any deficit reduction.

Independent Payment Advisory Board

Current status: The Affordable Care Act included a provision for the establishment of an Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB) empowered to reduce Medicare spending. Recently the Administration certified that spending targets for Medicare came in lower than projected, thus obviating the need for IPAB at the present time. No appointments have been made to IPAB at this time.

NANASP supports the repeal of IPAB on the basis that it provides too much power in the hands of unelected individuals to determine future issues with Medicare spending. Further, since healthcare spending has gone down in recent years, IPAB is unnecessary.

Medicare Part D

Current status: As the Medicare Part D program approaches its 10th anniversary, it enjoys a 90% satisfaction rate among participants, has come in with costs lower than expected, has maintained steady premiums over the past three years, and has offered seniors wide choices in plans. As Medicare reform advances in Congress either alone or as part of a larger deficit reduction plan, changes to Part D are possible.

NANASP supports the existing Medicare Part D program and would oppose those proposals which would result in any cost shifting or higher premiums for beneficiaries or reduction in choice of plans.

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