March 7, 2014

Rep. Suzanne Bonamici
439 Cannon House Office Building
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Rubén Hinojosa
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. George Miller
2205 Rayburn House Office Building
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Reps. Bonamici, Hinojosa and Miller:

The National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs (NANASP) is pleased to support H.R.4122, the Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization Act of 2014. Reauthorization of the OAA is vital to the health and independence of millions of seniors across the country. We commend you on your leadership in renewing a critically important law for millions of older Americans.

NANASP is a 1,100-member national nonpartisan, nonprofit, membership organization for persons, agencies and organizations across the country working to provide older adults healthful food and nutrition through community-based services. Its members represent a diverse coalition of those interested in senior nutrition programs. NANASP applauds your efforts to strengthen and modernize these programs to make them work now and in the future. We particularly commend you for requiring all OAA nutrition programs to provide nutrition screening, education, assessment, and counseling; for encouraging the use of locally grown fresh foods in nutrition programs; for updating bill language to “utilize” dieticians; and for requiring staff and volunteers who provide services to older adults to receive training in elder abuse prevention and detection.

We look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the process of reauthorization and we appreciate your dedication to improving the lives of our seniors.

Sincerely,

Paul Downey
President, NANASP

Robert B. Blancato
Executive Director, NANASP