



April 14, 2021

The Honorable Robert Casey
Chairman
Special Committee on Aging
U.S. Senate
G31 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Casey,

The National PACE Association (NPA) commends your stalwart, visionary leadership on behalf of our nation's seniors embodied in the introduction of The PACE Plus Act of 2021. Representing 119 PACE organizations in 28 states, NPA strongly supports the vanguard policy changes contained in the Act, including grants for rural and underserved areas, pilots to expand access and streamlined federal administration. These changes will facilitate substantial increases in the number of communities and people benefitting from the innovative and effective PACE model of care. We wholeheartedly agree with you that expanding the reach of PACE is an important national strategy for meeting the ever rising need for long term services and supports among older Americans and those living with disabilities in a home and community-based setting.

NPA sincerely thanks you and your staff, namely Samantha Koehler and Carolyn Mendez-Luck, for the extensive efforts to not only examine the challenges and obstacles constricting PACE, but also put forward effective remedies. We deeply appreciate the willingness to consider our input, as well as that of the 19 Pennsylvania programs and other stakeholders. As a result, The PACE Plus Act will rectify the most significant impediments facing the model of care by providing PACE organizations with additional tools and greatly needed actionable opportunities. If enacted, PACE programs will move quickly to extend their reach far beyond the nearly 55,000 participants in 30 States served today.

NPA and our member programs deeply appreciate all of your thoughtful work which stands at the forefront of advancing our nation's paradigm of aging. We will do our utmost to support you in securing enactment of this vitally important bill. Thank you again for offering transformational policy solutions to better enable Americans to age with dignity and the highest quality of life.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shawn M. Bloom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Shawn M. Bloom
President and CEO