March 27, 2022

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chair
Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Ranking Member
Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott
Chair
Education & Labor Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member
Education & Labor Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Neal and Scott and Ranking Members Brady and Foxx:

On behalf of the undersigned nonprofits, including charities and faith-based organizations, we want to express our strong support for the inclusion of the Legacy IRA Act in the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act (H.R. 2954, section 310). The Legacy IRA Act was originally introduced as H.R. 2909 by Representatives Don Beyer (D-VA-08) and Mike Kelly (R-PA-16).
We appreciate you placing a priority on families in America who are saving for retirement and simplifying the retirement system through the broader Securing a Strong Retirement Act. Specifically, the Legacy IRA provision will encourage more charitable giving by enabling seniors to make tax-free contributions from their traditional IRAs to charities through life-income plans. It is an important piece of broader efforts to increase charitable giving to enable nonprofits to continue to provide critical services in local communities such as health research and patient education, food assistance, domestic violence services, childcare, youth homeless shelters, and cultural and arts programming.

Many of our organizations are dependent on private philanthropy, including gift planning. We believe the Legacy IRA provision simply offers seniors another philanthropic option and would incentivize more giving to help charities while helping middle-income seniors who need a lifetime income.

We strongly support the inclusion of the Legacy IRA Act in the Securing a Strong Retirement Act and urge the House of Representatives to approve this measure. America is stronger when everyone has the opportunity to give, to get involved, and to strengthen their communities.

Sincerely,

ALS Association
Alternate ROOTS
Alzheimer’s Association
American Alliance of Museums
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Council on Gift Annuities
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Red Cross
Americans for the Arts
Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS)
Association of Art Museum Directors
Association of Fundraising Professionals
Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
Boys & Girls Clubs of America
Catalyst of San Diego & Imperial Counties
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities
Council on Foundations
Covenant House International
DANCE/USA
Florida Philanthropic Network
Girl Scouts of the USA
Girls Inc.
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
Grantmakers in the Arts
Habitat for Humanity International
Hemophilia Federation of America
Independent Sector
JDRF
Jewish Federations of North America
Leadership 18
League of American Orchestras
Lutheran Services in America
March of Dimes
Mental Health America
Momentum Nonprofit Partners
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of Charitable Gift Planners
National Community Action Partnership
National MS Society
New York Funders Alliance
OPERA America
Performing Arts Alliance
Philanthropy Ohio
Philanthropy Southeast
Providence
Social Current
The Nonprofit Alliance
The Salvation Army USA
Theatre Communications Group
UNICEF USA
United Philanthropy Forum
Volunteers of America
Wabash College
YMCA of the USA
YWCA USA