

AARP Government Affairs

# ADVOCACY UPDATE

*NRTA Biennial Advocacy Conference  
Key Bridge Marriott Hotel  
September 29, 2015*



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***WELCOME TO  
WASHINGTON!***

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*AARP National Office*

## About AARP Government Affairs:

- Introduction
- Mission

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Congress and President  
Obama...

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**Federal Appropriations and  
Budget Developments.**

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AARP Government Affairs

# 2015 PRIORITIES

## FEDERAL ADVOCACY



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# FEDERAL ADVOCACY

PRIORITY ISSUES INCLUDE:

- SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST RULE
- TRANSPORTATION
- CAREGIVING
- OLDER AMERICANS ACT



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# SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE - PROTECTING DISABLED WORKERS

- ❑ 70% of SSDI recipients are age 50 and older
- ❑ Congress must provide more funding for SSDI before 2017
- ❑ SSDI beneficiaries will face a 19% cut in benefits



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# FINANCIAL ADVISORS & CONFLICT OF INTEREST



Holding advisors to one standard, putting clients' interest FIRST, and eliminating conflicts of interest...



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# PEDESTRIAN SAFETY



- ❑ 20% of all pedestrian fatalities are seniors;
- ❑ 20% of people 65 years old and older do not drive; and
- ❑ Research has found that pedestrian accidents can be more deadly than natural disasters.

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# SAFE STREETS - LIVING SAFELY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Our Safe Streets bill promotes well-designed sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and other features that will significantly reduce injuries, deaths, and automobile crashes...



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# PRESERVING SERVICES FOR OLDER AMERICANS – THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

- ❑ National Eldercare Locator Service a toll free hotline for identifying community resources;
- ❑ Support Services to promote independence with regard to transportation, home care, legal aid, case management, and adult day care;
- ❑ Nutrition Programs including Meals on Wheels;
- ❑ National Family Caregiver Support Program;
- ❑ Health Promotion providing educational services, counseling and consultation;
- ❑ Aging and Disability Resource Centers
- ❑ The Community Service Senior Opportunities Act which works with the Department of Labor to provide employment opportunities for seniors;
- ❑ The Long-term Care Ombudsman Program; and
- ❑ Elder Abuse, neglect, and exploitation public education services.



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# CAREGIVING



- 2013 – 40 million caregivers provided 37 billion hours of care to an adult with Limitations in daily activities.
- Estimated economic value of their unpaid Contributions was approximately \$470 billion.

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# AARP'S FEDERAL CAREGIVING ACTIVITIES



*"It's not a **Republican** issue,  
it's not a **Democrat** issue."*

**- Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH)**

On Family Caregivers

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What can you do on behalf of AARP when you visit the Hill tomorrow?

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Questions?

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