

April 6, 2020

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
U.S. Senate
400 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senate
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Don Beyer
U.S. House of Representatives
1119 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Cramer and Stabenow and Representatives Beyer and Kelly:

On behalf of the more than 54 million Americans with doctor-diagnosed arthritis in the United States, the Arthritis Foundation writes in support of the bipartisan Legacy IRA Act (S. 1257 / H.R. 3832), which builds on and expands upon the existing Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Charitable Rollover and allows individuals age 65 and older to make tax-free IRA rollovers to charitable organizations through life-income plans.

The Arthritis Foundation is a community-driven organization powered by a strong network of volunteers and fearless advocates. As the country works to stem the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19), the Arthritis Foundation is a lifeline for people with arthritis seeking help, support, and answers during this difficult time. Many organizations have been and will be significantly harmed by reduced charitable giving, travel restrictions, fundraising event cancellations, and reduced meeting attendance as a result of COVID-19; the Arthritis Foundation has already been severely impacted across all of these areas. The Legacy IRA Act would provide seniors with another giving option by allowing them to use their IRA to fund a gift annuity. In other words, seniors with IRA resources, regardless of itemizing status, will benefit from this charitable giving incentive.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Please contact Vincent Pacileo, Director of Federal Affairs, at vpacileo@arthritis.org, if we can be of any assistance moving forward.

Sincerely,



Anna Hyde
Vice President, Advocacy and Access
Arthritis Foundation