

For Immediate Release
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NAELA Strongly Supports Chairman Sanders’ Reauthorization of Older Americans Act

*Bill Supports Essential Programs for Growing Baby Boomer Population:
Housing, Health Care, Food, Transportation, Job Training, Legal Services*

Washington, D.C. – The [National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys](#) (NAELA) expressed strong support for Sen. Bernie Sanders’ (I-Vt.) recent introduction of a [bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act](#) (OAA). Important initiatives of the reauthorization include meals program improvements, preventive health care, modernization of senior centers, and other programs to promote a greater quality of life for senior citizens and their families.

The OAA was first introduced in 1965 by President Lyndon B. Johnson to provide comprehensive assistance to seniors, enabling them to remain independent in their homes and communities.

“NAELA has been a long-time supporter of the OAA. It’s a win for everyone. Programs supported by the OAA help seniors live independently in their homes, while preventing taxpayers from having to pay for more expensive nursing homes, hospitals, and other health care services,” said NAELA President Edwin Boyer, Esq., CAP.

Several national organizations, including NAELA, wrote [letters to Sen. Sanders](#), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, on their support of the OAA and the positive impact it has on millions of Americans, age 65 and older. The need is greater than ever for services provided by the OAA in the struggling U.S. economy.

About NAELA

Members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA) are attorneys who are experienced and trained in working with the legal problems of aging Americans and individuals of all ages with disabilities. Established in 1987, NAELA is a non-profit association that assists lawyers, bar organizations and others. The mission of NAELA is to establish NAELA members as the premier providers of legal advocacy, guidance and services to enhance the lives of people with

special needs and people as they age. NAELA currently has members across the United States, Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom. For more information, visit NAELA.org.

About Elder and Special Needs Law

Elder and Special Needs Law are specialized areas that involve representing, counseling and assisting seniors, people with disabilities and their families in connection with a variety of legal issues, with a primary emphasis on promoting the highest quality of life for individuals. Typically, Elder Law and Special Needs Law address the convergence of legal needs with the social, psychological, medical and financial needs of individuals. The Elder Law and Special Needs Law attorney handles estate planning and counsels clients about planning for incapacity with health care decision-making documents. The Elder and Special Needs Law attorney also assists clients in planning for possible long-term care needs, including at-home care, assisted living or nursing home care. Locating the appropriate type of care, coordinating public and private resources to finance the cost of care and working to ensure the client's right to quality care are all part of the Elder and Special Needs Law practice.

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