

Healthy Rural Aging

The rural population is aging more rapidly than in urban areas with 17.5% of rural populations being age 65+, compared to 13.8% of urban populations.

NRHA Supported Legislation

Supporting Our Direct Care Workforce and Family Caregivers Act

(S.1298 in the 118th Congress)

Sen. Kaine (D-VA)

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to set up a national technical assistance center and grant program to support the direct care workforce and family caregivers.

Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act

(S.4532/H.R. 8702 in the 118th Congress)

Sen. Marshall (R-KS) and Rep. Kelly (R-PA)

Establishes requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans.

Senior Hunger Prevention Act

(S.1036/H.R. 3474 in the 118th Congress)

Sen. Casey (D-PA) and Rep. Bonamici (D-OR)

Modifies and expands nutrition programs for older adults and adults with disabilities, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).

Medicare Dental Benefit Act

(S. 2012/H.R. 4146 in the 118th Congress)

Sen. Cardin (D-MD) and Rep. Barragan (D-CA)

Provides for Medicare coverage of dental and oral health services, including routine diagnostic and preventive services, basic and major dental services, and emergency care; dental prostheses are also covered.

Older adults living in rural areas face elevated rates of morbidity, including:

- Obesity
- Diabetes
- Coronary heart disease
- Falls and mortality from falls
- Cancer
- COVID-19

Rural Age Friendly Priorities



- Promote "Choosing Rural"
- System-level alignment of multisector plans on aging, state and federal frameworks and resources for the rural end user
- Address regulatory barriers at the state and federal levels
- Build a robust care workforce to support rural aging in place