Why do we need the PACE EXPANDED Act?

Roughly 14 million Americans have a serious health problem that requires long-term care, such as assistance with bathing, transportation and meal preparation. Over half of the individuals that require this care are ages 65 and up, yet few options exist to support seniors and people with disabilities as they age in their homes and communities. The Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is an alternative model of care to traditional home-based care that can help people receive care in the community.

PACE provides comprehensive care for low-income seniors and people with disabilities ages 55 and up by integrating Medicare coverage and Medicaid long-term care. PACE’s interdisciplinary approach and wrap-around care enables 55,000 individuals across 30 States to remain in their homes, which is overwhelmingly where they prefer to live. PACE programs provide health care and supportive services, like adult day care, transportation and medication management, for some of the most medically-complex individuals. Enrollment in a PACE program has been shown to result in fewer hospitalizations and visits to the emergency room as well as reduced caregiver burden for family members. Although the PACE model has existed nationally for more than 25 years, PACE programs have not had the flexibility to expand services and test new and innovative models to deliver care.

The PACE EXPANDED Act would help seniors and people with disabilities by:

- Facilitating greater enrollment of Medicare-only beneficiaries otherwise eligible for PACE;
- Providing an alternative to institutional models of care in more states; and
- Giving people additional opportunities to enroll in PACE throughout the year.

Supporters:

If you have questions or would like to add your boss as a cosponsor, please contact Josh Kramer (josh_kramer@aging.senate.gov) for Senator Casey or John R. Graham (john_graham@aging.senate.gov) for Senator T. Scott.