February 28, 2020

Representative Jimmy Gomez
1530 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Representative Gomez:

The cochairs of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Social Security Task Force are pleased to report that the task force has endorsed the Stable Benefits and Housing Assistance Act.

The current law’s disparate treatment of relocation assistance depending on whether it is paid directly by state and local governments, or whether it is paid by landlords pursuant to laws made by state and local governments, is confusing for the Social Security Administration to administer and unhelpful to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries who are being relocated.

By allowing both types of relocation assistance to be excluded from countable income and providing the same nine-month spend-down period before either type of relocation assistance is considered a countable resource, this bill will help SSI recipients maintain financial stability during the relocation process.

This bill will help senior citizens and people with disabilities who have low incomes and limited assets. For these reasons, we look forward to working with you on this legislation and thank you for your leadership on this important matter.

Sincerely,

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