



February 1, 2018

Representative Sam Johnson
Chairman
Social Security Subcommittee
House Ways and Means Committee
2304 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC. 20515

Representative John Larson
Ranking Member
Social Security Subcommittee
House Ways and Means Committee
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Larson:

On behalf of the Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL), I write in strong support of H.R. 4547, the Strengthening Protections for Social Security Beneficiaries Act of 2017. Enactment of this legislation will provide critical protections for Social Security beneficiaries as well as needed reforms to the crucial representative payee program.

The ACDL is a non-profit law firm that assists Arizonans with disabilities to promote and protect their legal rights to independence, justice, and equality. Our vision is a society where people with disabilities enjoy full acceptance without barriers. ACDL is dedicated to advocating for the rights of individuals with a wide range of physical, mental, psychiatric, sensory and cognitive disabilities. During the past year, we provided direct services to over 1,300 Arizonans with disabilities. We appreciate your efforts to ensure critical protections for Social Security beneficiaries nationwide.

This bipartisan legislation proposes many important and needed changes that will streamline the program as well as take important steps to increase oversight of the representative payee program by funding the nationwide network of P&A systems to monitor how representative payees are administering the Social Security funds received by beneficiaries.

Again, we greatly appreciate your work on this important issue culminating in the introduction of this critical legislation. Should you have any questions or need more information, please contact me at 520-327-9547, ext 331 or jrico@azdisabilitylaw.org.

Sincerely,

J.J. Rico
Executive Director

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