

**MAX ACTION ALERT**

MAX is focusing on the workforce crisis that all MAX members are experiencing.  This is a complex issue that will not be easily solved.  One of the hopeful pieces of federal legislation is the Better Cares, Better Jobs Act sponsored by our own Senator Casey.  If passed, this would infuse federal funding to each state to increase rates for HCBS services so providers can elevate front line staff compensation.  This would be an incredible step forward in helping with the workforce crisis.

BUT........

In speaking with Senator Casey's office, he needs your help to get this passed.  It is far from a done deal and we need to rally and push it over the finish line.  It will go through the reconciliation process which means it  only needs a simple majority of Senators to approve it for it to pass.   Sounds simple, but it still needs a push from us.

Here is why..

Currently, all Republican Senators are opposed to the Better Cares Better Jobs Act.   That means we need all Democratic Senators to approve it and the Vice President to break the tie.

Some Democratic Senators feel the $4billion dollar price tag is too much.

Here's what you can do to help:

* Review the legislation:
  + [One-pager](https://www.aging.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Better%20Care%20Better%20Jobs%20Act%20One%20Pager%20SBS%20072821.pdf)
  + [Bill text](https://www.aging.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Better%20Care%20Better%20Jobs%20Act%20Text%2006-24-21%20For%20Distribution.pdf)
* Take action! Share national action alerts with networks and on social media:
  + [ANCOR’s Action Center](https://www.ancor.org/amplifier)
  + [The Arc's Action Center](https://p2a.co/lRPDZ5C)
* Multi-state providers or providers with staff & families that live outside of Pennsylvania should contact their Senators to make sure they’re cosponsors of the bill
* Encourage provider leadership/families/DSPs to submit dear editor letters or op-eds to regional papers expressing support for the bill and why it’s need now more than ever

Here is the list of 10 targeted Senators.   Please reach out to them if you have any connection at all - such as services in their state or even better their district.  Encourage them to support the Better Care Better Jobs Act.

**DE:  Senators Carper and Coons**

**AZ: Senators Kelly and Sinema**

**CO: Senator Higgenlooper**

**NV: Senator Cortez Masto**

**VA: Senator Warner**

**MT: Senator Tester**

**GA: Senator Tester**

**WV: Senator Manchin**

Also attached are some facts about the Better Cares Better Jobs Act that you can use in your advocacy.

THIS IS A TIME SENSITIVE ACTION.  The Senate will be taking this up in a couple of weeks when they return to Washington.

LET"S GET THIS DONE........  LET'S PUSH IT OVER THE FINISH LINE....

**Diane Conway, Ph.D.**