

January 8, 2007

To: S&DS Planning and Budget Committee

From: Kay Metzger

Subject: Update on Older Americans Act 2007-08 Funding Levels

Background

The 110th United States Congress convened for the first time on Thursday, January 4, 2007 in a day marked by ceremony and celebrations. Senate and House members were sworn in, then officially elected new leaders. The House has an ambitious “100 Hours” agenda, including at least one issue of importance to older adults and their caregivers: changes to the Medicare Part D prescription drug program that would direct the Secretary of HHS to negotiate drug prices.

OAA Funding for 2007-08

Regarding the status of funding for Older Americans Act programs, the most recent information indicates that, following the initial “100 Hours” push, a continuing resolution (CR) will be enacted for the remainder of FY2007 that will keep the programs funded at current FY2006 funding levels. Thus, with the exception of the Family Caregiver Support Program, the best information we have indicates S&DS can plan for funding levels similar to fiscal year 06-07. S&DS anticipates that the Family Caregiver Support Program will receive approximately 35% less than last year.

Decision Points

At the January 18, 2007 Planning & Budget Committee meeting, S&DS staff will distribute a handout, the “2007-08 Area Plan Budget – proposed expenditures” that will offer a few scenarios for the Committee to review and comment on.