**Support Charitable Giving - Cosponsor Bipartisan Legacy IRA Act**

Endorsements: Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, ALS Association, Alzheimer’s Impact Movement, American Cancer Society, American Council on Gift Annuities, American Heart Association, American Red Cross, Arthritis Foundation, Association of Art Museum Directors, Association of Fundraising Directors, Americans for the Arts, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Catholic Charities USA, CASE, Council for Advancement, Council on Foundations, DANCE USA, Good Samaritan Society, Girls Inc., Girl Scouts of the USA, Goodwill USA, Hemophilia Federation of America, Immune Deficiency Foundation, Independent Sector, Jewish Federations of North American, League of American Orchestras, Lutheran Services in America, March of Dimes, Mental Health America, National Alliance on Mental Illness, National Association of Charitable Gift Planners, National Council of Nonprofits, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, The Nonprofit Alliance, The National Opera Center, Performing Art Alliance, United Philanthropy Forum, United Way Worldwide, Volunteers of America, YMCA of the USA, YWCA USA

Dear Colleague,

Charities have been responding to the unprecedented need caused by COVID-19 in their communities with shrinking resources. One new survey of smaller nonprofits found 13% had suspended all or most of their operations. Please join us and cosponsor [H.R. 3832, the bipartisan Legacy IRA Act](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/3832?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22h.r.+3832%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=1), to help nonprofits at this critical time by incentivizing more charitable giving by seniors.

Every day, charities who have endorsed the Legacy IRA Act are holding communities together with essential services amid the health and economic crisis, but they need support, including charitable giving from generous donors. YWCA USA is offering vital services, including providing emergency childcare services to first responders and supporting survivors of domestic violence as the threat of abuse increases across the country. Goodwill organizations are collecting donations of first aid supplies; providing vehicles, staffing and other equipment to hospitals and food banks; collecting donations for food banks; providing smocks for healthcare workers; and providing job preparation skills online. American Heart Association has committed $2.5 million in rapid response research awards to better understand COVID-19 and its interaction with heart and brain systems and developed the first COVID-focused registry to aggregate data and aid research on the disease, treatment protocols and risk factors tied to adverse cardiovascular outcomes.

Due to economic uncertainty, these nonprofit organizations are bracing for a dramatic decline in charitable giving through direct donations and canceled fundraising events. The CARES Act provided relief for individuals, small businesses, and nonprofits in several ways, including allowing $300 universal charitable deduction in 2020. But at the same time, in order to provide tax relief for individuals, the law also included a one-year freeze on the mandate that IRA holders age 72 and older make a minimum annual withdrawal from their retirement accounts. According to the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, this waiver has an unintended consequence of discouraging charitable giving from retirement accounts, potentially leading to a decrease in charitable giving. At a time when more and more Americans are relying on services from nonprofits, we should be bolstering incentives to make charitable donations.

One such opportunity is the Legacy IRA Act. The legislation builds on and expands the existing IRA Charitable Rollover that was first created by Congress in 2006 and made permanent in 2015. Since its enactment, the IRA Charitable Rollover has generated millions of dollars in new or increased contributions to local and national charities. We are concerned that the one-year freeze in the CARES Act will negatively affect this time of charitable giving.

The Legacy IRA Act would **expand** the IRA Charitable Rollover to allow seniors starting at age 65 to make tax-free IRA rollovers to charities while providing a guaranteed income for the senior for life. Congress can easily increase charitable giving from middle-income seniors by passing the bipartisan Legacy IRA bill, with negligible impact to the budget. The JCT score is $106 million over 10 years.

If you have any questions or to cosponsor, please email Zach Cafritz with Rep. Beyer or Lori Prater with Rep. Mike Kelly.

Sincerely,

Don Beyer Mike Kelly

Member of Congress Member of Congress