



July 20, 2020

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rick Scott  
716 Hart Senate Office Building  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio and Senator Scott:

As COVID-19 infections and deaths continue to climb in our state, older Floridians and their care providers are growing more desperate for federal resources and support. My organization, LeadingAge Florida, represents some 250 providers of aging services across the state, including nursing homes, assisted living, affordable senior housing, home health, and other care providers. On behalf of these mission-driven organizations and the tens of thousands of Floridians they serve and employ, I am writing to ask for your leadership in harnessing federal resources to protect our members and the seniors they serve.

As Congress returns to debate the package of relief needed to contain and reverse the deadly surge of COVID-19, we are counting on your leadership—not only for Floridians, but for Americans across the country. This next package of legislation must put older adults and their care providers at the front of the line right alongside hospitals for life-saving resources like personal protective equipment and testing, and it must include funding and support for aging services providers that ensure the health and safety of the most at-risk population of older adults.

Attached to this letter is a [situational report](#) on the state of aging services to offer you a snapshot of the real needs of your constituents, as well as a [letter from LeadingAge](#), our national association headquartered in Washington D.C., detailing exactly what legislative action is needed.

As you and your colleagues in the Senate develop the next COVID-19 relief bill this week, I hope you take the lead in delivering the emergency federal measures needed to protect millions of older adults in Florida and across the nation from the worst pandemic in a century.

**Joel L. Anderson, Board Chair**  
**Steve Bahmer, President/CEO**

*Expanding Possibilities for Aging*

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Older lives are not expendable. We are depending on you to lead this urgent effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Bahmer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Bahmer  
President/CEO

Attachments:

Florida Situation Report

[LeadingAge Congressional Letter](#)