



September 19, 2022

The Honorable Tim Scott, Robert Casey, and Bill Cassidy
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20501

RE: S. 4264, *Advancing Integration in Medicare and Medicaid (AIM) Act of 2022*

Dear Senators:

The Dual Eligible Coalition is a multi-sector group of stakeholders including beneficiary advocates, managed care plans, provider systems, state advisors, and behavioral health and social support service organizations dedicated to the development of actionable, long-term policy and programmatic solutions to improve both care delivery and outcomes for individuals eligible for Medicare and Medicaid benefits (dual eligible individuals). For the past several years, the Coalition has worked to address challenges facing dual eligible individuals and supports legislative actions consistent with our principles.ⁱ

The Dual Eligible Coalition writes in support of S. 4264, *The Advancing Integration in Medicare and Medicaid (AIM) Act of 2022*. We thank you for the introduction of this legislation, which requires states to develop a concrete strategy for integrating and coordinating Medicare and Medicaid coverage for full-benefit dual eligible individuals. The legislation would be a key step in moving states toward greater integration, requiring them consider important aspects of integration, including eligibility requirements, beneficiary education and understanding, enrollment considerations, beneficiary choice and protections, mental health benefits, as well as data collection.

As you know, dual eligible individuals are a diverse group of Americans with unique and often complex needs. With more than 12 million individuals dually eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid, states and HHS both play an important role in ensuring their care is individualized, coordinated, and ultimately leads to positive outcomes. Despite many advancements in integrating care, including the Financial Alignment Initiative and the creation and growth of highly and fully integrated dual eligible special needs plans (D-SNPs), there are still significant gaps and care remains fragmented and difficult to navigate for dual eligible individuals in most states.

Despite advancements in plan types, many dual eligible individuals still remain in plans that are not integrated, subjecting them to uncoordinated notices and information, as well as sometimes conflicting policies coming from more than one plan. Siloed funding and limited state incentives to improve care for dual eligible individuals also contribute to an environment where individuals are not receiving the most coordinated quality care.

The Coalition views this legislation as a constructive and necessary building block to ensure that states improve the current state of integration for dual eligible individuals. Along with the requirements of this legislation, the Coalition is supportive of other recently introduced bills aimed at furthering integration and providing states with an opportunity to lead on improving care for dual eligible individuals. For example, S. 4273, the *Supporting States in Integrating Care Act of 2022*, would provide states interested in providing a plan for integration with the resources needed to develop a strategy for integration. Similarly, a provision of S.3630, the *Supporting Care for Dual Eligibles Act* would also provide targeted financial assistance to states specifically for the purpose of improving care for dual eligible individuals.

The Dual Eligible Coalition strongly supports S. 4264, *The Advancing Integration in Medicare and Medicaid (AIM) Act*. We sincerely thank you for the introduction of this bipartisan legislation that outlines a process to encourage states to develop plans to integrate care for dual eligible individuals. We would be happy to work with your offices as the legislation advances and be a resource throughout this process.

Sincerely,

The Dual Eligible Coalition

¹ <https://info.leavittpartners.com/dual-eligible-coalition>