

Pass the EMPOWER Care Act H. R. 5306

EMPOWER Care Act Gets People with Disabilities & Seniors Back Home

The EMPOWER Care Act is a bipartisan bill that extends and improves the Money Follows the Person program (MFP). MFP is a success story: It has helped more than 83,000 individuals move out of institutions and into settings of their choice, and has helped 44 states improve access to community-based long-term care, also known as home and community-based services (HCBS).

MFP Offers Opportunities to Live Independently, Improve Quality of Life and Age with Dignity

MFP invests in HCBS by providing federal funding for transitional services for individuals wishing to leave institutions. In a 2017 evaluation, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) found strong evidence that beneficiaries' quality of life improves when they transition.

States Save with Money Follows the Person

Providing long term care in the home costs less than institutional care. Average monthly expenses for MFP participants declined by \$1,840 (23%) in the first year. CMS also finds that MFP participants are less likely to be readmitted to institutional care.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT: MFP Funding to Help People Transition Ends This Year

The MFP Program expired in 2016. States have already scaled back their programs by 40%, or ended their programs completely. Without additional investment, every state will stop their programs this year. The EMPOWER Care Act resolves this by reauthorizing the program through 2020.

Please pass the EMPOWER Care Act so that our communities are not haunted by the specter of disabled people lost to unwanted institutionalization.



**For questions or additional information, contact ADAPT's
End the Institutional Bias Committee co-chairs,
Mike Oxford; mikeoxford@rocketmail.com, 785.224.3865 or
Jennifer McPhail; Jennifer.adapt@sbcglobal.net, 512. 627.5869**

