

Allies for Independence Statement: House Passes Build Back Better Act, Includes Home and Community Based Services

November 19, 2021

Today, the House of Representatives passed the Build Back Better Act ([BBBA, H.R. 5376](#)) by a vote of 220-213. The BBBA is the first time the United States has invested in infrastructure that will better help people in their day-to-day lives. The bill includes universal pre-kindergarten, expansion of the Child Tax Credit, four weeks of paid family leave, extension of Affordable Care Act (ACA) enhanced subsidies through 2025, a new hearing benefit in the Medicare program, and funding for home and community-based services (HCBS).

The House version of the Build Back Better Act invests a historic \$150 billion in expanding HCBS for millions of individuals with disabilities and those who are aging. This funding will not only support individuals with disabilities, the aging population, and the direct service professionals (DSPs) who care for them, but it will also expand services to individuals on state waiting lists.

HCBS is essential for individuals with disabilities and the aging to live at home and participate in their own communities. Now, more than ever, everyone deserves the option to choose the setting in which they live and the choice to pick who can assist them in their daily activities.

Allies for Independence looks forward to working with the Senate to pass this important legislation and get it signed into law so that can begin to help our country's most vulnerable populations.