



October 31, 2007

The Hon. Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Klobuchar:

Third Way is pleased to endorse the AGE (America Giving care to Elders) Act.

We share your view that this bill, which would expand support for family caregivers, is a crucial step toward easing the burden on so-called "sandwich generation" families.

More and more adults—including many of those in two-earner households—are shouldering the responsibility of caring for both children and aging parents. In our report, *Unsticking the Sandwich Generation*, we note that in 2001, 44 percent of adults aged 45 to 55 had aging parents or in-laws as well as children under 21. Further, the fastest growing segment of the population is people over the age of 85, and the vast majority will need some level of long-term care. Family caregivers will provide most of this care, but government help for these caregivers is either sparse or non-existent.

Your bill has the potential to alleviate the strain placed on these families. Expanding tax relief will ease the financial burden for thousands of families. And increasing access to information and support services will offer them much-needed guidance in navigating the system of available resources, particularly for those who wish to help their elderly parents preserve their independence at home.

We applaud your dedication on this important issue and your efforts to help modern families deal with this very modern problem. We stand with you in strong support of the AGE Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JC", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jonathan Cowan
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Anne Kim", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Anne Kim
Director, Middle Class Project