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**AARP Testimony in Support of HF 1937
House of Representatives Human Services Committee
April 14, 2026**

Co-Chairs Schomacker, Noor, and Committee Members,

AARP Minnesota has a long history of supporting the state's more than 840,000 family caregivers who help make it possible for their parents, spouses, friends, and other loved ones to live independently at home as they age. That is why we are writing to express our support for HF 1937 that seeks to implement the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

PACE is designed to allow individuals age 55-plus assessed as needing a nursing home level of care, most of whom are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, to remain living independently in their homes and communities. Using a comprehensive, integrated, interdisciplinary approach to care that provides services and supports for beneficiaries, PACE can be a key component to allow individuals to avoid placement in a nursing home and to support the needs of family caregivers.

Participants have access to a comprehensive range of services, including adult day care, medical care, physical and occupational therapy, dental care, nutrition counseling, prescription medications, and LTSS. PACE enrollees receive many of these services at a PACE center in their community. The core of PACE is an interdisciplinary clinical team that continuously evaluates participants' needs and assures that they are met through an array of coordinated clinical, social, and personal care services delivered to participants living in their home.

On behalf of our more than 620,000 members statewide, thank you for considering HF 1937. For further discussion, please contact AARP Minnesota State Advocacy Director, Thomas Elness, at telness@aarp.org.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy McLeer".

Cathy McLeer, State Director
AARP Minnesota





April 14, 2026

To: Rep. Liz Reyer
CC: House Human Services Committees

RE: HF1937

Dear Rep. Reyer:

We write to share our enthusiastic support for the development of Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) in Minnesota. The LTCI has long supported and championed PACE, a tested program that is overdue in Minnesota. Our member organizations are committed to providing safe, quality care which enhances the experience of aging for our seniors. To that end, we believe now is the time for Minnesota to take the next steps to fully implement the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) as a model of care for delivering care to older adults.

PACE is a nationally recognized and supported community-based model of interdisciplinary care for older adults authorized by the federal Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA). According to the National PACE Association, 97% of PACE participants choose to remain in PACE for the remainder of their lives. Minnesota is historically known as a health care innovator, yet we remain curiously behind in adopting PACE; 32 other states plus DC that currently have active PACE programs (launched and operating). With PACE, older adults have an interdisciplinary team of health care professionals working with them to make sure they successfully remain living in the community with the vital recreational, social, medical, mental health, nutritional and spiritual services they need. The wrap-around services seniors receive through PACE have allowed the more than 55,000 nursing home eligible older adults currently enrolled nationwide to thrive in their community of choice.

With the actuarial study completed, and the dissolution of one of the state's few MSHO carriers, now is the time to implement value-based care for older adults. We look forward to working with you on this and other permanent solutions to ensure seniors have access to the quality services they deserve.

Respectfully,

Erin Huppert
VP Advocacy, LeadingAge MN
LTC Imperative

Kyle Berndt
Sr. Director Advocacy, Care Providers MN
LTC Imperative