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For Immediate Release
March 21, 2016

Statement from Martha A. Roherty, NASUAD Executive Director, regarding the passage of S.192, the Older Americans Act Reauthorization, in the House of Representatives

Today, the House of Representatives passed S.192, the Older Americans Act reauthorization. NASUAD and our membership are very grateful to Representatives John Kline and Bobby Scott for their leadership on this important piece of legislation. I also want to thank the Education and Workforce committee staff for their tireless efforts to develop consensus around the legislative language. NASUAD is excited to work with the Senate in order to pass the House-amended bill, and are confident that reauthorization will be signed into law this year.

The legislation includes many important provisions which seek to modernize the OAA to reflect the current and future realities of the Aging Network. NASUAD is very supportive of the language that amends the Act to promote state flexibility, person-centeredness, and cultural and linguistic competence in the administration and delivery of OAA services. We are also supportive of the increased funding for crucial OAA services contained within the bill's authorizations.

The last OAA reauthorization was passed in 2006 and expired in 2011. Today marked an important step towards the much-needed reauthorization of the program.

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