LGBT AND HIV AGING FEDERAL POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Co-Sponsor the LGBT Elder Americans Act

FOLLOW THE LEAD of states like California and Massachusetts in federally designating LGBT older people—as well as older people living with HIV—as a group of “greatest social need” (a target population) under the Older Americans Act, the nation’s primary vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition programs such as Meals on Wheels.

THE LGBT ELDER AMERICANS ACT makes this designation, in addition to requiring LGBT data collection and permanently establishing the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging.

Co-Sponsor the Elder Pride Act

AUTHORIZE FEDERAL FUNDING to connect rural LGBT older people with services and supports.

THE ELDER PRIDE ACT authorizes this funding and establishes a Federal Office of Older LGBT Policy.

Co-Sponsor and Vote for the Equality Act

DUPLICATE THE EFFORTS of 21 states and the District of Columbia in ensuring that LGBT older people can live free from discrimination in housing and employment by co-sponsoring and voting for the Equality Act.

THE EQUALITY ACT protects people from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity in public accommodations, housing, employment, jury service, and credit.

Mandate Federal Engagement and Coordinated Research on HIV and Aging

REQUIRE THE NIH to engage in a targeted and coordinated cross-division research effort, including research on psychosocial issues and non-medical supportive services, for at-risk older people living with HIV.

REQUIRE THE CDC to engage in targeted prevention and treatment messaging for older people.

SAGE is the country’s largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) older people. Founded in 1978, SAGE is a national organization that offers supportive services and consumer resources to LGBT older people and their caregivers. SAGE also advocates for public policy changes that address the needs of LGBT elders, provides education and technical assistance for aging providers and LGBT community organizations through its National Resource Center on LGBT Aging, and cultural competency training through SAGECare. With staff located across the country, SAGE also coordinates SAGENet, a growing network of affiliates in the United States.

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