

News from the

**U.S. Senate Committee on
Health, Education, Labor and Pensions**

Michael B. Enzi (Wyoming), Chairman



For Immediate Release

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Tuesday, February 14, 2006

***ENZI SAYS BALANCED RENEWAL OF OLDER AMERICANS ACT
KEY TO MEET NEEDS OF GROWING SENIOR COMMUNITY***

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee, today confirmed that work is under way to reauthorize the “Older Americans Act” (OAA) and to prepare the programs covered by the bill to serve some 77 million baby boomers that are turning 60 in record numbers.

“The ‘Older Americans Act’ has proved an important tool to create an environment that allows our elder Americans to live better,” Enzi said. “We must work across party lines to ensure our seniors remain healthy, fed, housed, mobile, safe from consumer scams, and from abuse and neglect. This legislation provides an important foundation to provide our elders needed support.”

The Subcommittee on Retirement Security and Aging, chaired by Senator Mike DeWine (R-OH), held a Roundtable today to help assess the federal government’s success implementing improvements to OAA during its last reauthorization six years ago and to help identify needed improvements for this year’s reauthorization. The Roundtable brought together participants from the older American community and government for comment and discussion.

OAA's programs enrich the lives and well being of older Americans through a range of social service programs, including home-delivered nutrition, community service employment, long-term care coordination and elder abuse and neglect prevention.

"It is my goal to move through the reauthorization process expeditiously, while balancing the need to understand what programs have worked and what programs have not. We must keep what works, and fix what doesn't," Enzi added.

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