

I write in support of this Bill as a County Resident of 57 years and someone who has been the recipient of the Respite Care Program. Unfortunately, my wife of 5 decades has cognitive decline and I have been her sole caregiver. Needless to say, it has been difficult and straining for me as I turn 80 in 2 months. The Respite Program has enabled me to get a reprieve from this difficult task and make sure my wife Sandi is safe while allowing me a required break. Without this Program I am not sure I could manage as caregiver without jeopardizing my own health. The Program is run superbly in all respects. Having this program has also benefited my children and their families since they are not in a position to provide relief to me and have their concerns on the adverse effect my caregiver work without a break has on my overall health. In short, the Respite Program is an essential government sponsored program and worthy use of taxpayer money for its citizens. I am sure my views are mirrored by many others. I urge the Council in the best interests of its citizens to approve the appropriation of \$250,000 to the upcoming Budget

Thank you for your consideration  
Aaron Handleman