

To the Editor:

I am writing to share my concern about not getting more money for PENNCARE services in the 2024-2025 budget. These services, which come from my local Area Agency on Aging, [Name of Area Agency on Aging], are very important for people who are 60 and older. They include things like home-delivered meals, help with bathing, transportation, and community centers.

The Department of Aging asked for a small 5% increase of \$15.2 million to keep these services going. This increase is needed to keep programs like "OPTIONS" running smoothly. Without this extra money, our Area Agency on Aging might [insert the impact for your local AAA. Examples can include: cut services, make people wait longer, or not be able to pay home care workers adequately.]

State Representatives and Senators can fix this by passing a special budget bill in September to move \$15.2 million from the Lottery Fund to the Department of Aging.

We ask our legislators to quickly introduce, pass, and send this important budget change to the Governor. This is crucial for all older adults and their families.

[Name]

Note: *Be sure to sign the letter and include a telephone number where you can be reached in the evening. Sometimes these types of letters are reviewed in the evening, and the editor will call to confirm you wrote the letter.*

Naturally, feel free to rewrite the letter into your own words. Keep in mind that most newspapers limit a letter to 300 words. The template letter above is approximately 200 words. Your local newspaper letters page should have a list of any requirements.