

ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS

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Retired Americans Mourn Loss of Senator Kennedy

The following statement was issued today by Alliance for Retired Americans President Barbara J. Easterling, Secretary-Treasurer Ruben Burks, and Executive Director Edward F. Coyle, on the death of Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

“Retired Americans are deeply saddened by last night’s passing of Senator Kennedy. Senator Kennedy was one of the greatest champions of older Americans in our nation’s history. Senior citizens are deeply indebted to him for his lifetime of achievements and leadership, from the beginning of his Senate career until the end.

“Senator Kennedy began his career in public service by helping launch Medicare, a true American success story that has reduced senior poverty by two-thirds. We will forever remember his courageous return to the Senate Floor in 2008, against medical advice, to keep Medicare from being slashed.

“From Medicare through debates on issues such as Social Security, fair and affordable housing, civil and economic rights, and most recently health care, Senator Kennedy’s voice was a guiding light, pointing the way toward the right and decent way our nation should treat its citizens.

“The Alliance for Retired Americans encourages all generations in this country to pause to reflect upon Senator Kennedy’s life and his works. Our nation has lost one of its greatest statesmen ever. We send our thoughts and prayers out to Senator Kennedy’s family and friends.”

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The Alliance for Retired Americans is a national organization that advocates for the rights and well being of over 3.5 million retirees and their families.