PASS PERMANENT REAUTHORIZATION
OF MONEY follows the PERSON (MFP)

MFP Gets Individuals with Disabilities & Seniors Back Home
First authorized by President Bush in 2005, with strong bipartisan support, MFP helps individuals
with disabilities and seniors who want to move out of nursing homes and back in their
communities. MFP has assisted more than 91,000 individuals voluntarily move into a setting of
their choice, and has helped 44 states improve access to community-based long term services
and supports, also known as “home and community-based services” (HCBS). Congress has
provided short-term funding for this program through the end of December. This program must be
permanently reauthorized so that all individuals with disabilities and older adults stuck in
institutional settings can access to this important program and states know they can rely on this
federal funding to assist.

MFP Enhances Opportunities to Live Independently and Age with Dignity
Medicaid requires states to provide care in nursing homes, but HCBS is optional. MFP incentivizes
investment in HCBS by providing federal funding for transitional services for individuals who wish
to leave a nursing home or other institution. Thanks to MFP, over 91,000 seniors and people with
chronic conditions and disabilities and have transitioned back into the community.

MFP Rebalancing Demonstration is a Success Story that Improves Quality of Life
At the end of 2015, nearly all states had an MFP demonstration. In a 2017 evaluation, the Centers
for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) found strong evidence that beneficiaries’ quality of life
improves when they transition from institutional long-term care to HCBS. MFP participants
experienced increases across all seven quality-of-life domains measured, and the improvements
were largely sustained after two years.

States Save with Money Follows the Person
Providing long term care in the home costs less than institutional care. Average monthly expenses
for MFP participants declined by almost 25 percent in the first year after transitioning from a
nursing home to HCBS. CMS also found that MFP participants are less likely to be readmitted to
institutional care than other beneficiaries who transition but do not participate in the program.

Current Legislative Proposals Make Improvements to the MFP Program
Legislative language before Congress improves MFP by reducing how long someone must be in a
nursing home before becoming eligible to transition -- from 90 days to 60. (The longer someone
remains in a nursing home, the harder it can be for them to transition out.) The language also
enhances the reporting and accountability of MFP funding and requires the federal government to
identify and share the most effective state strategies for transitioning beneficiaries from institutional
to qualified community settings, including how such strategies vary for different types of
beneficiaries.

Time is running out: Short-term MFP funding to help people transition ends AT THE END OF
DECEMBER!! We urge Congress to pass a permanent reauthorization of the Money Follows
the Person program.