

**Letter of Support for the
Receiving Electronic Statements to Improve Retiree Earnings Act**

October 7, 2016

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Enzi
379A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown, and Senator Enzi:

On behalf of the over 20,000 members of the American Retirement Association, we hereby express our strong support for the *Receiving Electronic Statements to Improve Retiree Earnings (RETIRE) Act* (S. 3417). We commend you both for your leadership on this important issue.

The American Retirement Association is a non-profit professional organization comprised of four premier retirement industry associations - the American Society of Pension Professionals & Actuaries (ASPPA), the ASPPA College of Pension Actuaries (ACOPA), the National Association of Plan Advisors (NAPA), and the National Tax-deferred Savings Association (NTSA). While our members come from all corners of the country, representing every part of the industry, they are all united by their belief in and commitment to the private employer-sponsored retirement system.

The *RETIRE Act* recognizes the new reality of how Americans consume information. This common sense legislation allows for the extensive disclosure requirements of ERISA to be furnished electronically. Electronic notices can be more engaging and less difficult to wade through than reams of paper. In addition, electronic delivery of this information will be more efficient, reliable, timely, and environmentally friendly. Importantly, the bill also includes strong protections for individuals that still wish to receive information about their retirement benefits on paper.

S. 3417 strikes the right communication balance that will enable plan sponsors, participants and beneficiaries to make sound decisions and enhance the retirement savings of tens of millions of Americans. We applaud this bipartisan effort and encourage Congress to enact this bill into law.

Sincerely,



Brian H. Graff, Esq., APM
Executive Director/CEO
American Retirement Association