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**ACAP RECOGNIZES SENATOR RON WYDEN FOR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE
SUSTAINABILITY IN MEDICARE ADVANTAGE FOR DUAL ELIGIBLES**

WASHINGTON— The Association for Community Affiliated Plans today recognized Senator Ron Wyden, the senior Senator from Oregon, with its 2016 Congressional Leadership Award.

Senator Wyden, who has served in the Senate since 1996, was recognized for his leadership in advancing policies surrounding the Medicare Advantage program that would promote the program's sustainability—and, more importantly, its equitability for Medicare beneficiaries who have low incomes.

Owing in large part to Senator Wyden's persistence, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has changed the way that Medicare Advantage plans serving beneficiaries dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid are reimbursed. The change, which more accurately reimburses plans who serve "full-benefit" dual eligibles, or people who qualify for a full set of Medicaid benefits owing to low incomes or poor health status, will improve stability for the program and improve access and care for full-benefit duals.

"Senator Wyden has been a strong advocate for making sure that government-sponsored health coverage programs work the way they are meant to work for the people they are meant to serve," said ACAP CEO Margaret A. Murray. "He's one of those Senators who thinks every day about ways to improve health programs, and it shows in his prolific set of proposals in any given year, and in his willingness to lead on issues such as Medicare Advantage reimbursement. We're proud to honor him today."

Previous winners of the ACAP Congressional Leadership Award include Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio, Senator Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, Congressman Gene Green of Texas, Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa, Senator Max Baucus of Montana, and Representative Henry Waxman of California.

About ACAP

ACAP represents 57 nonprofit Safety Net Health Plans in 26 states, which collectively serve more than seventeen million people enrolled in Medicaid, Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other health programs. For more information, visit www.communityplans.net.

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