

ADvancing States Applauds the Nomination of Rita Landgraf for ACL Administrator



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ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA - ADvancing States, the association representing state long-term services and supports agencies, is excited to support the nomination of Rita Landgraf for the Assistant Secretary of Aging and Administrator of the Administration for Community Living (ACL) role within the United States Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Landgraf is a skilled administrator with experience across a wide range of programs that are crucial to older adults, people with disabilities, and long-term services and supports.

Ms. Landgraf served as Cabinet Secretary of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) from 2009 to 2017. As the Secretary of DHSS, she oversaw Medicaid, aging and disability services, and a number of other important health and human services programs. She has a wide range of experience in aging and disabilities services, including time as President of AARP Delaware, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Delaware, and Executive Director of the Arc of Delaware.

ADvancing States' president, Kathleen Dougherty, worked with Ms. Landgraf during her time as Secretary of DHSS. Ms. Dougherty commented, "I am thrilled that Ms. Landgraf has been nominated to lead ACL. During her tenure, she was a strong supporter of ADvancing States' core values, including promoting self-determination and community living for older adults and people with disabilities." Melissa Smith, Director of the Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities within DHSS, also commended the nomination, saying, "Ms. Landgraf is a compassionate leader who brings people together. She is skilled, knowledgeable, and, most importantly, a fervent supporter of the programs we administer. In Delaware, we are thrilled that she will bring her experience and perspectives to ACL."

ADvancing States' Executive Director Martha Roherty added, "It is always great to have someone with state experience in Federal roles, as they bring a wonderful perspective of how these programs operate across the country. Ms. Landgraf has proven herself to be a reliable leader and fierce advocate for older adults and people with all types of disabilities. We look forward to working with her in her role as ACL Administrator and Assistant Secretary of Aging."

About ADvancing States

ADvancing States was founded in 1964 under the name National Association of State Units on Aging (NASUA). In 2019, the association changed its name to ADvancing States. Today, ADvancing States

represents the nation's 56 state and territorial agencies on aging and disabilities and long-term services and supports directors.

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