About eight in ten AARP members say they support the Virginia legislature increasing funds for the Caregiver Grant Program to $1 million per year.

More than half of Virginia members report they strongly support the state legislature raising funding for the Caregiver Grant Program from $700,000 to $1 million dollars per year. This would enable the state to increase the amount of the individual grants which are currently up to $500 per family per year. Funding for caregiver information and training could also be increased.

A majority of Virginia AARP members report they would be more likely to vote for a state candidate who supported increasing funding for the Virginia Caregiving Program from $700,000 per year to $1 million per year.

Six in ten members (60%) report they would be more likely for a candidate who supports increasing funding for the Virginia Caregiving Program. Four percent say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate who supported the study, while about one in five (22%) indicate it would not make a difference in their voting decision.
Methodology

This mail survey explores the opinions and experiences of AARP Virginia members on health care quality, long-term care, caregiving, pay-day lending, and transportation. AARP conducted the 2007 Virginia Member Survey between July and August 2007. Researchers at AARP randomly selected 2,000 AARP members in Virginia making sure to select members proportionate to each of three age groups: 50-59, 60-74, and 75+. Each selected member received a pre-notification postcard, the survey itself, a reminder postcard, and a second survey.

From the sample, 790 members returned the survey, making the response rate 40 percent. The sampling error for this survey sample is ±3.5 percent. This means that in 95 out of 100 samples of this size, the results obtained in the sample would fall in a range of about 3.5 percentage points of what would have been obtained if every eligible AARP member household in Virginia had been surveyed. As of August, 2007, there are approximately 1,036,950 AARP members in Virginia. Researchers weighted the sample by age group to represent the AARP Virginia member population.