Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) and Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA) recently introduced the Transformation to Competitive Employment Act (S.260/H.R.873). The legislation aims to phase out the unfair labor practices of subminimum wage over a six-year period by providing Section 14(c) certificate holders with the opportunity to redesign and strengthen program models to maximize competitive, integrated employment for people with disabilities.

The Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living (APRIL) endorses the introduction of the Transformation to Competitive Employment Act as the organization has long advocated for fair wages and workforce inclusivity. APRIL believes the bill would fundamentally advance employment outcomes for Americans with disabilities and is committed to supporting the furtherance of S.260 and H.R.873.

**APRIL Employment for People with Disabilities Value Statement:**
APRIL believes employment should be the first and preferred outcome for people with disabilities. We believe that employment should be in a community based setting and paid at a competitive wage.