The IRA charitable rollover provision has proven very popular with taxpayers and beneficial to charities. Yet, this giving tool has not reached its full potential: it is only available to taxpayers age 70½ or older; the maximum gift amount is capped at $100,000; and donors are not permitted to make charitable rollovers to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations.

How You Can Support Philanthropy (Ask):
Urge your colleagues in Congress to expand the IRA charitable rollover.

Proposals
In April of 2015, Senator Chuck Schumer introduced S.1772— which proposed to permanently extend the rollover, eliminate the $100,000 cap, allow donors to make rollovers beginning at age 59½, and permit rollovers to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, and private foundations.

Position Rationale
Increase Charitable Giving. The popularity of the rollover with donors has resulted in increased charitable donations. According to a 2015 Urban Institute survey, the majority of community foundations report that they have received IRA charitable rollover donations since the tool first became available to donors in 2006. Yet, community foundations make as much as two-thirds of their grants from donor-advised funds (DAFs). If the IRA charitable rollover was expanded to DAFs, these foundations could engage new donors in their communities. Expanding the rollover to allow donors more choice in how to donate—whether to a donor-advised fund, a private foundation, or directly to a publicly charity—would enhance the culture of charitable giving that helps define who we are as Americans.

For more information, contact the Council on Foundations Public Policy and Legal Affairs Department at govt@cof.org.

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