



U.S. SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

AGING ACTION REPORT

FROM RANKING MEMBER TIM SCOTT

DEAR FRIEND,

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating, negative effect on small businesses and their employees. As the nation rebounds from the pandemic, seniors can be a part of the solution and help create jobs for others. The American Dream does not stop at retirement. Millions of Americans have the potential to continue building on their careers by re-entering the workforce using the life experience they have cultivated over the years.

That is why I introduced Golden-preneurship Act on July 14, 2021. My bill will equip older entrepreneurs with the tools necessary to take their ideas from the drawing board to reality. I thank Senator Shaheen for joining me in introducing this bill and believing that every American, no matter their age, can be a contributing member of society.

RANKING MEMBER TIM SCOTT



AGING HEARING DEBRIEF: BUILDING WEALTH AND INDEPENDENCE

On Thursday, July 15, Ranking Member (RM) Tim Scott and members of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging heard from a panel of witnesses about the state of retirement savings for all Americans and the challenges and opportunities they face when it comes to saving for retirement. During the hearing, RM Scott emphasized his commitment to building onto the SECURE Act, so we can continue to remove obstacles to building wealth for all Americans.

The committee was pleased to have Mount Pleasant, South Carolina's John Iacofano, owner of Iacofano's catering, as a witness. He shared his experience as a small business owner and he testified on his efforts and success in offering a new retirement savings plan for his employees. The day of the hearing, Iacofano's Catering launched a new Pooled Employer retirement plan made possible by the SECURE Act.

LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT TO REINSTATE SSA COMMISSIONER

Together, all Republican Senate Special Committee on Aging members sent a letter to President Biden urging him to reinstate and honor the Senate confirmed, six-year term of Andrew Saul as Social Security Administration (SSA) commissioner. The committee members find the politically-motivated action especially worrisome as it will have drastic effects on SSA services that help millions of older Americans with basic expenses like housing, food, and medicine. They also request an explanation on the authority an acting commissioner would possess.



ENCOURAGING CMS TO IMPROVE HCBS

RM Scott sent a letter to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, calling for improving quality and combating fraud in Medicaid's Home & Community Based Services (HCBS). HCBSs provide opportunities for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive services in their own home and community rather than institutions or other isolated settings.

In the letter, RM Scott notes that most older Americans prefer to stay at home as they age. The letter asks CMS to describe its efforts to establish quality measures for Medicaid HCBS and mitigate fraud to ensure all Americans are afforded the right to age where they prefer with dignity, respect, and quality care.

CDC MUST PROTECT THE AGING COMMUNITY FROM UPCOMING FLU SEASON

RM Scott sent a letter to the Biden administration, urging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to focus on protecting older Americans in light of the upcoming influenza season. The letter comes as the 2020-21 flu season was the mildest on record, leading to concern among some experts that the upcoming flu season could be more severe, due to less data about the prevalent flu strains as well as reduced flu immunity in patients.

By providing the information requested, the CDC will help us understand how the CDC is working to mitigate the flu's impact on the senior population and ensure that those who endured the largest burden of the COVID -19 pandemic will be protected during the upcoming flu seasons.



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THE SWEET TEA

Congratulations to Bill Glover of Daniel Island, SC, for being named North American Caregiver of the Year by Home Instead! Glover is a 67 year old professional caregiver who works with clients who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Glover is passionate about bringing joy and light into the lives of his clients. "You meet so many incredible people who have lived such incredible lives," Glover said. "I work hard, but I get more out of my work than I put into it."

Thank you for helping those who need it most and empowering clients in their own homes, Mr. Glover!



Special Committee on Aging
628 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-0185

Senator Tim Scott's Office
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-6121

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