

U.S. SENATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

AGING ACTION REPORT

FROM RANKING MEMBER TIM SCOTT

DEAR FRIEND,

As the Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am committed to protecting our nation's seniors from financial schemes and other scams targeting older Americans.

On the back of this newsletter, there is a <u>Fraud Card</u> that I hope will be a useful tool to help protect yourself against the deceptive means scammers use to try and get your money and personal information. If you do receive a suspicious call, hang up and please call the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging's Fraud Hotline at 1-855-303-9470 for help.

RANKING MEMBER TIM SCOTT



AGING HEARING DEBRIEF: A CHANGING WORKFORCE

On Thursday, April 29, Ranking Member Tim Scott and members of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging heard from a panel of witnesses about the needs of America's older workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. In his opening statement, Ranking Member Scott discussed how older workers have been affected by COVID-19 and how to support them as they re-enter the workforce and contribute to our nation's economy. He shared concern for rising unemployment numbers for those age 65 and above and highlighted growing opportunities within the gig economy for the older workforce.

The Committee was pleased to have South Carolina's David Poston, President and CEO of Palmetto Synthetics, as a witness. He shared the benefits his company has seen from employing a majority older workforce and the importance of supporting older employees.

LETTER TO ADMINISTRATION: PRIORITIZE AND SUPPORT THE OLDER WORKFORCE

Ranking Member Tim Scott and Chairman Bob Casey Jr. sent a joint letter to the Biden Administration urging the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to prioritize supporting older workers. "The number of older workers is growing at a rate that outpaces the overall growth of the labor force. Ensuring that this large and expanding share of our country's workforce benefits fully from our nation's economic recovery is essential," the Senators wrote. "Supporting the aging workforce provides DOL with a critical avenue to advance economic opportunities for older Americans."

RANKING MEMBER TIM SCOTT'S FRAUD CARD

CUT OUT AND USE AS A TOOL TO AVOID SCAMS.

Tips from Senator Tim Scott on Avoiding Scams

- Con artists force you to make decisions fast and may threaten you.
- ★ Con artists disguise their real numbers, using fake caller IDs.
- ★ Con artists sometimes pretend to be the government (e.g. SSA).
- ★ Con artists try to get you to provide them personal information like your Social Security number or account numbers.
- Con artists utilize national emergencies such as COVID-19 to create panic.
- Before giving out your credit card number or money, please ask a friend or family member about it.
- * Beware of offers of free travel!

If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and please call the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging's Fraud Hotline at

THE STATE FISCAL FLEXIBILITY ACT

Senators Scott and Graham reintroduced the State Fix Act with a number of targeted steps to ensure that Americans have adequate access to broadband internet. "Connectivity is absolutely essential for South Carolina families and businesses. Increased broadband access means more opportunity for underserved and rural communities, positively affecting everything from education and healthcare to business and workforce development," said Senator Scott.

Specifically, the bill will provide \$20 billion for broadband infrastructure, use a reverse auction method to provide top-quality broadband service at the lowest price, and base a state's funding on their unserved and a percentage of their underserved populations to distribute funds to the areas of greatest need.



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THE SWEET TEA

Have you received a text or email with a survey about your vaccine? Scammers have begun targeting vaccine recipients with "post-vaccine surveys."

Use these tips to avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Survey Scams:

- Do not post a picture of your vaccine card online.
- Do not click on links to "post-vaccine surveys" from vaccine companies.
- Do not enter private financial information to unsolicited links. The vaccine is FREE.

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