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United States Senate

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6400

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July 14, 2017

Dear Friends:

As the Chairman and Ranking Member of the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging, we work together in a bipartisan way to examine issues that are particularly timely and relevant to the needs of older Americans. The outcome of these examinations is an annual report that seeks to inform policymaking in the Congress. This year, the Committee's report will focus on the issue of older Americans and the workforce.

Almost 20 percent of people over the age of 65 are in the workforce. These workers bring tremendous value, including years of experience and skill that provide benefit not only to employers and families, but also to our economy. Over the next several months, our Committee will examine the best practices and successful public-private partnerships that are models for supporting and sustaining older employees' contributions to the workforce. We will also look at the needs of the Nation's older workforce, the opportunities and challenges older Americans face in the workforce, and how technology and other changes are influencing this segment of the workforce. We will review labor force trends and projections, and evaluate what steps policymakers might consider to better support the needs of older workers.

To help guide our efforts, we are seeking your input. The Special Committee on Aging is requesting comments, including data, policy analysis and options, model programs and other relevant information, from older Americans, academics and other experts, employees and their families, employers, advocacy organizations, and others who have experiences related to our Nation's workforce and older Americans. Specifically, we are requesting input on the following questions:

1. What opportunities and challenges face older Americans in the workforce?
2. What best practices are employers implementing to create age-friendly workplaces?
3. What steps should policymakers consider to help support older workers?

Please submit all written comments to the Special Committee on Aging via email at comment@aging.senate.gov. The deadline to respond is Monday, July 31st at 6 p.m. All submitted comments will be considered part of the official public record.

Thank you for your engagement on this important issue. We hope that this effort will continue the long-standing commitment of the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging to serve the needs of Americans as we age.



Susan M. Collins
Chairman
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging