



March 25, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Saul
Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21235

Dear Commissioner Saul:

On behalf of our 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, AARP writes to share concerns about the delay in distribution of individual recovery rebates to Social Security and Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries. Many older Americans who have been hard hit by the health and economic impact of the pandemic have yet to receive either their payments or clear communications from the government on when this will occur.

Over the past year, AARP worked hard to ensure that federal beneficiaries, including Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans Affairs and Railroad retirees, were able to receive much-needed relief payments automatically, even if they do not normally file taxes. It is only right that older Americans – who already interact regularly with the federal government through these various programs – be able to receive relief payments quickly and automatically, and without having to take additional steps.

AARP understands the Social Security Administration (SSA) has worked with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to once again identify eligible Social Security and SSI beneficiaries for automatic payments. We urge you to provide clear, up-to-date information on the SSA website about the role SSA plays in expediting payment delivery to beneficiaries and to work with the IRS to provide clear communications on when Social Security and SSI recipients should expect their payments. Older Americans are counting on these payments to make ends meet. We urge you to continue to prioritize the facilitation of relief payments to federal beneficiaries, including those in U.S. territories, and to provide clear communications to these groups moving forward.

Once again, AARP thanks you for your leadership in helping to facilitate payments to millions of Americans throughout the pandemic, including Social Security and SSI beneficiaries. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Tom Nicholls of our Government Affairs team at tnicholls@aarps.org or 202-434-3765.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Bill Sweeney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bill" and last name "Sweeney" clearly legible.

Bill Sweeney
Senior Vice President
AARP Government Affairs