



August 14, 2023

The Honorable Bob Casey
United States Senate
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Todd Young
United States Senate
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey and Senator Young:

AARP, which advocates for the more than 100 million Americans age 50 and older, thanks you for introducing the Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification (BENES) 2.0 Act. We share your commitment to helping people approaching age 65 punctually and properly enroll in Medicare, thereby preventing delays in coverage and costly penalties.

AARP has long recommended that the Social Security Administration should notify potential Medicare beneficiaries, well before they reach Medicare eligibility at age 65, about the steps to take if they want to enroll and about the circumstances under which premium penalties may be assessed. Directing the Social Security Administration to work with the Department of Health and Human Services to inform potential Medicare beneficiaries of their eligibility annually for five years prior to turning age 65 will help ensure that older Americans have adequate time to plan for their transition to Medicare.

Thank you again for your bipartisan leadership in introducing BENES 2.0. AARP was proud to support previous iterations of the BENES Act and to help earlier legislative proposals become law. We look forward to working with you again to further improve the Medicare beneficiary enrollment process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Andrew Scholnick on our Government Affairs team at ascholnick@aarp.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Bill Sweeney".

Bill Sweeney
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs