



November 9, 2023

The Honorable Marc Molinaro
United States House of Representatives
1207 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Dingell
United State House of Representatives
102 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
United States House of Representatives
271 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Don Davis
United State House of Representatives
1123 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susie Lee
United State House of Representatives
365 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Molinaro, Dingell, Fitzpatrick, Davis, and Lee:

AARP, which advocates for the more than 100 million Americans age 50 and older, is pleased to endorse the Friendly Calls for Our Seniors Act. We appreciate your bipartisan efforts to address loneliness and social isolation among older Americans.

A [report](#) earlier this year from the U.S. Surgeon General underscores the importance of addressing social isolation and loneliness, noting that “lack of social connection poses a significant risk for individual health and longevity.” AARP also co-authored a [study](#) that found that a lack of social contacts among older adults is associated with an estimated \$6.7 billion in additional Medicare spending annually. Your legislation would offer grants to states to provide regular and weekly telephone calls to older adults and adults with disabilities who are at risk of social isolation or loneliness, and who do not have supportive assistance. This bill will help increase social connections for older adults and connect them to resources in their communities.

Thank you for your work to support older adults and people with disabilities. We look forward to working with you on this and other issues important to individuals age 50 and older and their families. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Rhonda Richards on our Government Affairs team at rrichards@aarp.org.

Sincerely,

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

Bill Sweeney
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs