



December 14, 2023

The Honorable Pete Ricketts  
United States Senate  
139 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ricketts:

AARP, which advocates for the more than 100 million Americans age 50 and older, is pleased to endorse the Improving Measurements for Loneliness and Isolation Act (S. 3260). We appreciate your efforts to address loneliness and isolation.

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.” This issue also impacts taxpayers broadly: an AARP [study](#) 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 establish a working group to formulate recommendations for standardizing the measurements of loneliness and isolation, an important step to help address isolation and loneliness and consistent with recommendations of the U.S. Surgeon General and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Thank you for your work on this issue impacting older adults, veterans, and other individuals. 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](mailto:rrichards@aarp.org).

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 distinguishable.

Bill Sweeney  
Senior Vice President  
Government Affairs