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United States Senate

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6400

(202) 224-5364

July 14, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

For millions of older Americans, Social Security is a lifeline that helps with basic expenses like housing, food, or medicine. The nonpartisan Social Security Administration ensures that these benefits are delivered in a timely manner, free from partisan intrusion. As members of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, we find your decision last Friday to remove Social Security Administration Commissioner Andrew Saul particularly worrisome.

Commissioner Saul was confirmed by the Senate in an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote in 2019. Commissioner Saul has led the agency through one of the most trying periods in its history during the COVID-19 pandemic, and he did so admirably. Commissioner Saul was confirmed by the Senate to serve a full six-year term that expires in 2025, and he should have remained in his position unless removed for cause, as written in federal law.

Your removal of Commissioner Saul raises serious concerns about future policies proposed by your Administration that could negatively impact the Social Security benefits of millions of seniors. We urge you to honor the advice and consent role of the Senate by reinstating Commissioner Saul and allow him to finish his term. We also ask you to explain the authority an acting Commissioner would have to carry out the statutorily obligated duties of the Commissioner.

Please provide your detailed response to this question by July 31, 2021. Thank you for your attention and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Tim Scott
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



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



Richard Burr
Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



Marco Rubio
Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



Mike Braun
Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



Rick Scott
Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging



Mike Lee
Member
U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging