



December 14, 2023

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senate
501 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.
U.S. Senate
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Brown and Cassidy,

The National Alliance to Impact the Social Determinants of Health (NASDOH) writes to express our appreciation and support for the introduction of the *Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Savings Penalty Elimination Act (S.2767)*, which would update SSI's asset limits for the first time since the 1980s to ensure disabled and elderly Americans are able to prepare themselves for a financial emergency without putting the benefits they rely on at risk.

The National Alliance to Impact the Social Determinants of Health ([NASDOH](#)) is a group of stakeholders working to systematically and pragmatically build a common understanding of the importance of addressing social needs as part of an overall approach to health improvement and economic vitality of families and communities. The Alliance brings together health care, public health and social services expertise, local community experience, community-convening competence, business and financial insight, technology innovation, data and analytics competencies, and policy and advocacy acumen to assess and address current regulatory frameworks, funding environments and opportunities, and practical challenges to implementing and sustaining social determinants of health (SDOH) efforts. We seek to make a material improvement in the health of individuals and communities and, through multi-sector partnerships within the national system of health, to advance holistic, value-based, person-centered health care that can successfully impact the SDOH.

Right now, individuals receiving SSI benefits are limited to \$2,000 in assets; for married couples, the limit is \$3,000. We are pleased to see the bill would raise those caps to \$10,000 for individuals and \$20,000 for married couples and index them to inflation moving forward. This important change would remove barriers to participation in the workforce and saving, as SSI recipients would not have to fear a necessary source of income. NASDOH supports this legislation because advancing the economic opportunities of people that depend on SSI and other means-tested benefits will also advance health outcomes by helping to address financial security, an important non-medical driver of health. Evidence shows that income supports for families with low income can improve health outcomes.¹

We appreciate your leadership on S.2767, the *Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Savings Penalty Elimination Act* and hope to work with you on this and other similar legislation. For more information on NASDOH and our members, please visit our website at www.nasdoh.org or contact Sara Singleton at Sara.Singleton@leavittpartners.com

Sincerely,

Sara Singleton

Sara Singleton
Principal, Leavitt Partners and Advisor to NASDOH

¹ Economic Well-Being And Health: The Role Of Income Support Programs In Promoting Health And Advancing Health Equity, Health Affairs:
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2022.00846#:~:text=More%20recent%20work%20provides%20causal,or%20the%20opportunity%20to%20live>