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...vital to healthy aging

July 18, 2017

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chairman, Senate Special Committee on Aging
G31 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Casey
Ranking Member, Senate Special Committee on
Aging
628 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Collins and Ranking Member Casey:

The bipartisan Defeat Malnutrition Today coalition commends and congratulates you on the hearing held last week entitled “Nourishing our Golden Years: How Proper and Adequate Nutrition Promotes Healthy Aging and Positive Outcomes.”

We especially appreciated the attention each of you focused on the growing problem of malnutrition in older adults. Our Coalition was created in late 2015 to bring attention and awareness to this critical issue. Earlier this year, we released together with Avalere Health the *National Blueprint: Advancing Quality Malnutrition Care for Older Adults*. We were pleased to hear references to the Blueprint in the hearing and hope that you continue to find it useful for crafting policy around this issue.

We are hopeful that the Special Committee will keep its focus on this issue, especially as we approach the annual observance of Malnutrition Awareness Week, held this year on September 18-22, 2017. One suggestion we offer might be the establishment of a Senate working group on older adult malnutrition led by your Committee.

In whatever may follow this hearing, we look forward to working with you and your staffs.

Sincerely,



Bob Blancato
National Coordinator
Defeat Malnutrition Today