

Senator Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Building  
Washington, DC 20510-0202

Dear Senator Lisa Murkowski,

On behalf of the Autism Society of America, we thank you for introducing the bipartisan SSI Savings Penalty Elimination Act. This bill will raise the Social Security Income (SSI) asset limits for individuals and couples so that they can live independently and save money for their future.

The Autism Society of America is the nation's largest and oldest grassroots organization representing individuals with Autism and their families.


Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides critical benefits to nearly 8 million low-income older adults and people with Autism and other disabilities to help them meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. But while costs for these necessities have increased over the years, SSI's strict asset limits have not kept pace with inflation, and haven't been updated since 1984.

Under current policy, SSI beneficiaries are not allowed to build sufficient resources to address emergencies in the future. In addition, the extremely low asset limit prevents people from saving money from paid work for fear that they no longer be eligible for this modest support if they save over \$2,000. We should eliminate these barriers to work.

Thank you again for your leadership. The Autism Society looks forward to working with you to move this bipartisan, bicameral bill forward in this Congress.

If you have any questions, please contact [Kim Musheno](#), our VP of Public Policy.

Sincerely,



Christopher Banks  
President/Chief Executive Officer  
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Autism Society

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