



SOCIAL SECURITY WORKS  
815 16<sup>TH</sup> St., 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20006  
SocialSecurityWorks.org

April 12, 2016

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

Thank you for introducing the Social Security Fairness Act of 2015, which would repeal Social Security's windfall elimination provision and the government pension offset (WEP-GPO). Social Security Works supports this important legislation.

As you know, the nation is facing a looming retirement income crisis where most workers will be unable to cease work without a drastic reduction in their standards of living. Traditional employer-sponsored defined benefit pension plans are disappearing and public defined benefit plans are under attack. 401(k) plans have proven inadequate for most workers. Those tax-subsidized savings vehicles are widely seen as failures for everyone but the wealthiest among us.

The one sturdy part of the nation's retirement income system is Social Security. In light of Social Security's near efficiency, fairness in its benefit distribution, portability from job to job, universality, and security, the obvious solution to the nation's looming retirement income crisis is to increase Social Security's modest benefits. Repealing WEP-GPO, as your bill does, would increase the Social Security benefits of those beneficiaries who have devoted a portion of their careers to serving the public through government service.

Your legislation is a part of the growing movement to expand, not cut Social Security. Thank you for your leadership on this issue. We look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy J. Altman".

Nancy J. Altman  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Lawson".

Alex Lawson  
Executive Director