



116th Congress¹ Bills Introduced to Expand Social Security

Bill Name	Changes to Social Security	Lifts the cap	CPI-E	Extends Solvency	Other Benefits Increases
<p>Social Security 2100 Act S. 269 H.R. 860</p> <p>Sen. Richard Blumenthal (CT) Rep. John Larson (CT-1)</p>	<p>Subjects earning above \$400k to payroll tax. Switches to the more accurate CPI-E. Changes the benefit formula in a way which boosts benefits for all Social Security beneficiaries by approximately \$65 per month. Raises the minimum benefit 125%, combines the OASI and SSDI trust funds. Raises the threshold on the taxation of benefits.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Surviving Widow(er) Income Fair Treatment Act of 2019 (SWIFT Act) S. 345</p> <p>Sen. Bob Casey (PA)</p>	<p>Allows widows and surviving divorced spouses to (1) receive 100% of survivors benefits regardless of age during disability; (2) increase value of survivor benefit beyond current caps; (3) to receive child-in-care benefits through child's time in school (age 18 or 19); (4) received eligibility, claiming information and deadlines from the federal government.</p>				✓
<p>Social Security Expansion Act S. 478 H.R. 1170</p> <p>Sen. Bernie Sanders (VT) Rep. Peter DeFazio (OR-04)</p>	<p>Subjects earned and unearned income above \$250k to payroll tax. Switches to the more accurate CPI-E. Changes the benefit formula in a way which boosts benefits for all Social Security beneficiaries by approximately \$65 per month. Raises the minimum benefit 125%. Combines the OASI and SSDI trust funds.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓

¹ This list only includes legislation introduced in the 116th Congress and formally endorsed by Social Security Works

<p>Protect Our Widow(er) Retirement (POWR) Act H.R. 1540</p> <p>Rep. Linda Sanchez (CA-38)</p>	<p>Allows widows who previously lived in a two beneficiary household to choose a new option for benefit calculation which equals 75 percent of the combined household benefit.</p>				✓
<p>Fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2019 H.R. 1553</p> <p>Rep. John Garamendi (CA-3)</p>	<p>Switches to the more accurate CPI-E.</p>		✓		
<p>Protecting and Preserving Social Security Act S. 1132 H.R. 2302</p> <p>Sen. Mazie Hirono (HI) Rep. Ted Deutch (FL-22)</p>	<p>Lifting the cap on high-income contributions gradually over 7 years. Switches to the more accurate CPI-E.</p>	✓	✓	✓	
<p>ALJ Competitive Service Restoration Act H.R. 2429 S. 2348</p> <p>Sen. Maria Cantwell (WA) Rep. Elijah Cummings (MD-7)</p>	<p>Reverts the ALJ hiring process back to competitive service, rather than to political appointment, as outlined in a Trump Administration Executive Order.</p> <p><i>Note: Sen. Maria Cantwell & Sen. Susan Collins introduced similar legislation, S. 3387, in 2018.</i></p>				✓
<p>Strengthening Social Security Act H.R. 2654</p> <p>Rep. Linda Sanchez (CA-38) Rep. Mark Pocan (WI-02)</p>	<p>Increases monthly benefits for current and future retirees; Replaces CPI-W with CPI-E for the purpose of calculating COLA's; Phases out the taxable cap of \$132,900; Increases widow(er)s benefits to the greater of 75% of combined benefits, or the Primary Insurance Amount.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Maintain Access to Vital Social Security Services Act S. 1616 H.R. 2901</p> <p>Sen. Tammy Baldwin (WI) Rep. Gwen Moore (WI-04)</p>	<p>Requires SSA to operate a sufficient number of field offices and employ and adequate number of personnel at each field office to provide convenient and accessible services to the public while minimizing wait times. Additionally requires new reporting to Congress on these matters.</p>				✓
<p>Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act S. 1649 H.R. 2991</p> <p>Sen. Ron Wyden (OR) Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ-3)</p>	<p>Repeals the 1996 Social Security garnishment rules for Social Security. The legislation would prevent Social Security from being garnished for federal student debt, home loans owed to the Veterans</p>				✓

	Administration, and food stamps overpayments.				
Grandfamilies Act of 2019 S. 1660 H.R. 2967 Sen. Bob Casey (PA) Rep. Danny Davis (IL-7)	Alleviates restrictions on Social Security benefits so that relative children can receive benefits if they are under legal custody of a relative who already receives benefits. Additionally, extends TANF program.				✓
Social Security Administration Accountability Act H.R. 3905 Rep. Brian Higgins (NY-26)	Requires SSA to submit to Congress an annual report with yearly statistics for hearing office backlogs. Prohibiting the SSA from closing or limiting hours at field offices until 6 months after providing justification to Congress. Requiring the SSA to hold public hearings in the impacted community.				✓
Social Security Fairness Act H.R. 141 S. 521 Sen. Sherrod Brown (OH) Rep. Rodney Davis (IL-13)	Eliminates the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), which unfairly reduce or eliminate Social Security benefits for millions of public service workers and their families.				✓
Social Security for Future Generations Act H.R. 4121 Rep. Al Lawson (FL-5)	Subjects earned and unearned income above \$250k to payroll tax. Switches to the more accurate CPI-E. Extension of student benefit to age 22. Increasing special minimum benefit. Updated benefit formula for widow(er)s.	✓	✓		✓
Stop the Wait Act H.R. 4386 S. 2496 Sen. Bob Casey (PA) Rep. Lloyd Doggett (TX-35)	Eliminates 5-month SSDI and 24-month Medicare waiting periods for disabled Americans. Directs the National Academy of Medicine to conduct a study to ensure the elimination of the waiting periods are resulting in better health and community living outcomes for eligible SSDI recipients and their families.				✓
Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act H.R. 4540 Rep. Richard Neal (MA-01)	Fixes the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) by introducing a new proportional formula, provides meaningful WEP relief to current retirees, includes a benefit guarantee so that no current or future retirees can be worse off.				✓