



## 116<sup>th</sup> Congress<sup>1</sup>

### Bills Introduced to Expand Social Security

Bill Name	Changes to Social Security	Lifts the cap	CPI-E	Extends Solvency	Other Benefits
<b>Social Security 2100 Act</b> S. 269   H.R. 860  Sen. Richard Blumenthal (CT) Rep. John Larson (CT-1)	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.	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Surviving Widow(er) Income Fair Treatment Act of 2019 (SWIFT Act)</b> S. 345  Sen. Bob Casey (PA)	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.				✓
<b>Social Security Expansion Act</b> S. 478   H.R. 1170  Sen. Bernie Sanders (VT) Rep. Peter DeFazio (OR-04)	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.	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Protect Our Widow(er) Retirement (POWR) Act</b> H.R. 1540  Rep. Linda Sanchez (CA-38)	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.				✓
<b>Fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2019</b> H.R. 1553  Rep. John Garamendi (CA-3)	Switches to the more accurate CPI-E.		✓		

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

<p><b>Protecting and Preserving Social Security Act</b> 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><b>ALJ Competitive Service Restoration Act</b> H.R. 2429</p> <p>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 &amp; Sen. Susan Collins introduced similar legislation, S. 3387, in 2018.</i></p>				✓
<p><b>Strengthening Social Security Act</b> 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><b>Maintain Access to Vital Social Security Services Act</b> 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 an 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><b>Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act</b> 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 Administration, and food stamps overpayments.</p>				✓
<p><b>Grandfamilies Act of 2019</b> S. 1660</p> <p>Sen. Bob Casey (PA)</p>	<p>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.</p>				✓