



116th Congress¹

Bills Introduced to Expand Social Security

| Bill Name | Changes to Social Security | Lifts the cap | CPI-E | Extends Solvency | Other Benefits |
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| Social Security 2100 Act 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. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Surviving Widow(er) Income Fair Treatment Act of 2019 (SWIFT Act) 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. | | | | ✓ |
| Social Security Expansion Act 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. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Protect Our Widow(er) Retirement (POWR) Act 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. | | | | ✓ |
| Fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2019 H.R. 1553 Rep. John Garamendi (CA-3) | Switches to the more accurate CPI-E. | | ✓ | | |

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

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| Protecting and Preserving Social Security Act S. 1132 H.R. 2302 Sen. Mazie Hirono (HI) Rep. Ted Deutch (FL-22) | Lifting the cap on high-income contributions gradually over 7 years. Switches to the more accurate CPI-E. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| ALJ Competitive Service Restoration Act H.R. 2429 S. 2348 Sen. Maria Cantwell (WA) Rep. Elijah Cummings (MD-7) | Reverts the ALJ hiring process back to competitive service, rather than to political appointment, as outlined in a Trump Administration Executive Order. <i>Note: Sen. Maria Cantwell & Sen. Susan Collins introduced similar legislation, S. 3387, in 2018.</i> | | | | ✓ |
| Strengthening Social Security Act H.R. 2654 Rep. Linda Sanchez (CA-38) Rep. Mark Pocan (WI-02) | 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. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Maintain Access to Vital Social Security Services Act S. 1616 H.R. 2901 Sen. Tammy Baldwin (WI) Rep. Gwen Moore (WI-04) | 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. | | | | ✓ |
| Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act S. 1649 H.R. 2991 Sen. Ron Wyden (OR) Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ-3) | 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. | | | | ✓ |
| 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. | | | | ✓ |

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| 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. | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Strengthen Social Security by Taxing Dynastic Wealth Act S. 1950 Sen. Chris Van Hollen (MD) | Returns the estate tax to 2009 levels – rolling back the most recent boon for wealthy estates in the 2017 Republican tax law – and depositing all of the revenues from this tax into the Social Security Trust Fund. | | | | ✓ |
| Supplemental Security Income Restoration Act H.R. 4280 S. 2753 Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ-3) Sen. Sherrod Brown (OH) | Modernizes and improves SSI by streamlining and simplifying the claiming process, expanding the resources and income limits and eliminating punitive reductions in benefits. | | | | ✓ |
| 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. | | | | ✓ |
| Know Your Social Security Act H.R. 5306 S. 2989 Rep. John Larson (CT-1) Sen. Ron Wyden (OR) | Clarify the requirement for the Social Security Administration (SSA) to mail an annual Social Security Statement to all workers ages 25 and older with covered earnings, who are not receiving Social Security benefits. | | | | ✓ |
| Social Security Enhancement and Protection Act H.R. 5392 Rep. Gwen Moore (WI-4) | Increases special minimum benefit; 5% increase for seniors later in life; extends student benefit; eliminates cap on payroll contribution rate | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| The Gig is Up Act H.R. 5419 Rep. Deb Haaland (NM-1) | Require companies that gross at least \$100 million and employ at least 10,000 independent contractors to pay the full cost of both the employer contribution and the worker contribution to Social Security and Medicare, which will serve as an incentive to classify employees appropriately. | | | | ✓ |

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| Improving Social Security Service to Victims of Identity Theft Act H.R. 5446 Rep. John Larson (CT-1) | Requires the Social Security Administration (SSA) to provide identity theft victims with a single point of contact within SSA when the misuse of their Social Security number (SSN) results in the need to resolve one or more issue(s) with SSA. | | | | ✓ |
| Emergency Social Security Benefits Improvement Act H.R. 6356 Rep. John Larson (CT-1) | Average of 2% benefit increase across the board to all 64 million Americans receiving Social Security benefits; Increases threshold for Special Minimum Benefit to 125% of poverty; Reduces tax on benefits for lower- and middle-income taxpayers; Ensures grandparents are entitled to benefits to care for their grandchildren; Improves the widows' benefits for lower- and middle-income beneficiaries; Ensures dependent students are qualified for benefits through age 21. | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |