



March 1, 2021

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

Social Security Works is strongly opposed to the inclusion of Senator Mitt Romney's TRUST Act as part of the forthcoming COVID relief package. Any attempt to include the TRUST Act or any effort to create a bipartisan, bicameral congressional committee or commission would undermine the broad support for expanding Social Security in Congress, outright reject the will of the American people, and, quite frankly, be a vote to cut Social Security's modest but essential benefits. As the Senate considers the American Rescue Plan Act, you and your colleagues must reject any and all amendments that threaten our Social Security system.

Senators should know that under the guise of "fiscal responsibility," the types of groups established by the TRUST Act have always led to an effort to fast-track cuts to Social Security. Cutting Social Security will weaken the retirement security of working families. Cutting Social Security is against the will of the American people, who overwhelmingly want to expand the system, not cut it.

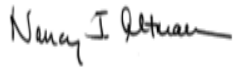
There is broad consensus around expanding and never cutting Social Security within the Democratic Party. President Biden, Chairman Bernie Sanders, and Chairman John Larson all have comprehensive plans to restore Social Security's long-range actuarial balance. They are committed to working together to pass legislation that reflects the American people's support for Social Security. Lawmakers who are concerned about Social Security should join their ongoing effort rather than support the TRUST Act, which would undermine it. The fast-track process outlined in the TRUST Act avoids political accountability by subverting the legislative process.

While the Byrd Rule restricts changes to Social Security as part of the reconciliation process, it could be overturned by 60 Senators. The TRUST Act amendment received 71 affirmative votes during the passage of the FY21 Budget Resolution. We are concerned that Senators may once again support this harmful and dangerous amendment. The American people cannot afford to see their Social Security benefits threatened. It would be the height of ironies to see that done as a part of relief from this devastating pandemic.

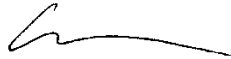
Social Security Works will consider support for the TRUST Act or any similar amendment support for cutting Social Security.

As a reminder, you can learn more about our opposition in [this article from our Executive Director, Alex Lawson](#).

Sincerely,



Nancy J. Altman
President



Alex Lawson
Executive Director