



SOCIAL SECURITY WORKS  
815 16<sup>TH</sup> St., 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20006  
[SocialSecurityWorks.org](http://SocialSecurityWorks.org)

August 6, 2021

The Honorable John Larson  
United States House of Representatives  
1501 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Larson,

Social Security Works enthusiastically endorses the Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust Act.

Our Social Security system provides modest but essential economic support when a worker's wages are lost in the event of death, serious and permanent disability, or old age. Social Security has provided millions of seniors, veterans, surviving spouses, people with disabilities, children, and others with guaranteed, earned benefits since its enactment in 1935. It is the most universal, secure and efficient pension plan around, but its benefits are modest by virtually any standard.

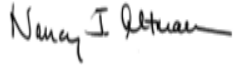
In addition to increasing benefits for all current and future beneficiaries, your legislation updates Social Security's minimum benefit so that those who work a lifetime at low wages will not retire into poverty. It adopts a more accurate cost of living increase, so that Social Security's modest benefits don't erode in value with each passing year.

This wise and important legislation includes a number of invaluable, long-overdue targeted benefit increases, as well. It restores Social Security's student benefit, improves benefits for widows and widowers, increases access to benefits for children living with grandparents, and provides a "birthday bump" for the oldest beneficiaries. Additionally, this bill completely repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset, which have prevented public servants from receiving their full Social Security benefits. It also ends the five-month waiting period for Social Security disability beneficiaries, and provides caregiver credits to people who take time out of the paid workforce to care for children and other family members.

This bill streamlines Social Security by combining the program's two trust funds, a reform that is long overdue. It requires the Social Security Administration to fulfill its duty to provide annual statements to beneficiaries through the mail. Furthermore, it protects the lowest-income seniors and people with disabilities, ensuring that increases in Social Security benefits do not result in a reduction in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits or loss of eligibility for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

It pays for all these benefits and more by requiring the wealthiest among us to contribute the same rate to Social Security that almost all other workers do – including minimum wage workers. Thank you for your visionary proposal and for all of your tireless work on behalf of current and future Social Security beneficiaries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nancy J. Altman".

Nancy J. Altman  
President

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alex Lawson".

Alex Lawson  
Executive Director