



# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

**Eric Bunn Sr.**  
*National Secretary-Treasurer*

**Dr. Everett B. Kelley**  
*National President*

**Jeremy A. Lannan**  
*NVP for Women & Fair Practices*

December 6, 2021

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chairman  
House Ways and Means Committee  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Larson  
Chairman  
Social Security Subcommittee  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member  
House Armed Services Committee  
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Reed  
Ranking Member  
Social Security Subcommittee  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Neal, Chairman Larson, Ranking Member Brady, Ranking Member Reed and Members of the Social Security Subcommittee:

On behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO (AFGE) which represents over 700,000 federal and District of Columbia employees who serve the American people in 70 different agencies, including approximately 45,000 who work at the Social Security Administration (SSA), we write to urge your support for H.R. 5723, the “Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust Act.”

This legislation will strengthen Social Security benefits by increasing the across-the-board benefit to seniors, more accurately calculating the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) to make up for inadequate benefits since 1983, increasing the minimum benefit for lifetime low earners based on years in the workforce. Additionally, this bill will strengthen the Social Security trust fund by lifting the cap for earnings over \$400,000.

This bill is a critical first step in repealing the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) for Social Security to provide workers including many federal employees a fairer Social Security benefit. Federal employees under the Civil Service Retirement System did not contribute to Social Security for those earnings, but often have sufficient non-federal earnings and they are getting short changed. The original calculation formula was chosen because the government lacked adequate data to implement the fairer version, which is now supported by 30+ years of data. The “Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust Act” leaves a “donut hole” of wages and self-employment income between \$148,800 and \$400,000 that would not be subject to FICA, which is why only a temporary WEP/GPO repeal is possible in this legislation. A future Congress should work to make a repeal permanent.



AFGE strongly supports the “Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust Act” and urges your support for this legislation. For additional information or questions, please contact Fiona Kohrman at [fiona.kohrman@afge.org](mailto:fiona.kohrman@afge.org).

Sincerely,



Julie Tippens  
Director of Legislation