



June 2, 2015

The Honorable Sam Johnson
3rd District, Texas
2304 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Johnson,

On behalf of the 1.3 million members of AMAC, the Association of Mature American Citizens, I am writing to extend our strong support for your bill, H.R. 2359, the “Disability Fraud Reduction and Unethical Deception (FRAUD) Act.” This timely and significant piece of legislation is critical to thwarting fraud and abuse within the Social Security disability program and to preserving program funds for rightful beneficiaries.

The “FRAUD Act” seeks to strengthen and expand the Social Security Administration’s (SSA) ability to deter and punish fraudsters who cheat the system. Establishing new, stronger penalties for individuals who conspire to commit Social Security fraud, including claimant representatives, translators, and SSA employees, the “FRAUD Act” raises the legal stakes for fraudulent behavior. While AMAC believes that violating the law is never acceptable, it is particularly troubling when it occurs at the expense of disabled Americans. Thus, we consider the “FRAUD Act” to be an essential step to protecting the disabled population, mitigating further waste, fraud, and abuse within the disability program, ensuring the responsible use of taxpayer dollars, and restoring public trust by enhancing the overall integrity of Social Security.

As the Social Security disability program continues to head down an unsustainable fiscal path – with insolvency of the program looming in 2016 – Congress must take necessary action to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse whenever possible and to enact responsible reforms that will preserve and protect benefits for individuals who are truly disabled. Social Security disability scandals, which have been widely reported and discussed, are indicative of serious vulnerabilities in the program that can and should be addressed no matter a person’s political persuasion. Imposing new penalties on fraudsters is one commonsense way to put the program on a more stable and secure footing and to ensure the program functions more effectively and efficiently for beneficiaries.

AMAC remains firmly committed to fighting for fiscal responsibility and government accountability in Washington and will continue to advocate for responsible legislation that will improve Social Security for future generations of Americans. Thanks to your steadfast leadership and your continued concern for mature Americans and seniors, AMAC is pleased to support H.R. 2359, the “Disability Fraud Reduction and Unethical Deception Act.”

Sincerely,
Dan Weber
President and Founder of AMAC