



Girl Scouts of the USA
Public Policy & Advocacy
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March 24, 2022

The Honorable Richard Neal
372 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4308

Dear Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady:

On behalf of Girl Scouts of the USA, I am writing to support House passage of the *Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022*, also referred to as SECURE 2.0.

We believe that far too many Americans have not saved enough for a secure and dignified retirement. There are numerous obstacles standing in the way of retirement security, including the cost and administrative burdens of maintaining a retirement plan. SECURE 2.0 would address these issues in a way that would improve retirement security, and we are proud to support it.

Who we are

Girl Scouts unleashes the best in every girl, ensuring she has the power and potential to be the leader in her own life, community, and world. Whether that is getting her local market to move to compostable bags, taking a night-time hike under the stars to accepting a mission on the International Space Station; from lobbying the city council with her troop to holding a seat in Congress; from running her own cookie business today to tackling cybersecurity tomorrow.

Dedicated to championing girl ambition, Girl Scouts has a proud legacy of alums, including 71% of current female U.S. Senators and 51% of female Members of the House of Representatives. Girl Scout alums are proven to be more civically engaged and more likely to take on leadership and volunteer roles compared to non-alums. A 2020 study by the Girl Scouts Research Institute (GSRI) showed that in the previous twelve months, 58% of Girl Scouts alums took civic action as compared to 43% of non-alums. According to another 2020 GSRI study, more than half of female entrepreneurs and business owners are alums, and alums are more likely than other women to have a business degree.

Mission: building girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

Our **Girl Scout Leadership Experience** is a one-of-a-kind leadership development program for girls, with proven results. It is based on time-tested methods and research-backed programming that help girls take the lead—in their own lives and in the world. Research shows that girls learn best in an all-girl, girl-led, and girl-friendly environment. Girl Scouts is a place where she'll practice different skills, explore her potential, take on leadership positions—and even feel allowed to fail, dust herself off, get up, and try again.

SECURE 2.0

The original SECURE Act contained ground-breaking reforms that enhanced retirement savings across the county, including for Girl Scouts. Thank you once again for your leadership on that bill.

SECURE 2.0 is a great second step. We call attention to provisions that would help women and others facing retirement savings challenges. For example:

- Enhanced retirement plan coverage of part-time workers, which would provide enormous help to so many women.
- A retirement savings lost and found registry that can help employees find the retirement benefits that they have earned from a long-ago employer.
- Incentives for small employers to make employees who are military spouses immediately eligible and vested in the employer's retirement plan, to address the fact that such spouses have to move so often.
- Increased opportunities for charitable giving through IRAs.
- Penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals in case of domestic abuse.

We strongly support House passage of SECURE 2.0 and applaud your leadership in bringing such an excellent bill to the House floor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Santa".

Sue Santa
Senior Vice President
Public Policy and Advocacy
Girl Scouts of the USA