



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

1139 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

Washington, DC 20515

January 10, 2025

The Honorable Carolyn W. Colvin
Acting Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Blvd
Baltimore, MD 21235

Dear Acting Commissioner Colvin,

As you are aware, the *Social Security Fairness Act* was signed into law on January 5, 2025, fully repealing Social Security's Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). The Committee on Ways and Means has devoted significant time and attention to examining the WEP and GPO, two flawed policies that impact the Social Security benefits of millions of public servants throughout the country, including holding two hearings on these provisions during the 118th Congress.

While the *Social Security Fairness Act* did not benefit from the technical refinements that result from committee consideration, its passage is a clear, bipartisan, and overwhelming representation of the will of Congress. As such, we are committed to ensuring that the Social Security Administration (SSA) implement the law as quickly and as smoothly as possible to provide needed and timely relief to those who have been unfairly harmed by these policies.

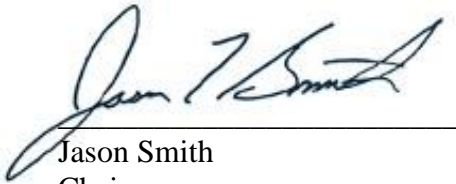
Given the magnitude of the legislative changes included in the *Social Security Fairness Act* and the current uncertainty surrounding the SSA's implementation of the new law, we request your prompt response to the following questions no later than January 17, 2025:

1. What is the SSA's plan to implement the *Social Security Fairness Act*?
2. What, if any, action will affected beneficiaries have to take to ensure that their benefits are properly adjusted and that any additional benefits are paid appropriately? How and when will the SSA provide notice to those affected beneficiaries?
3. What additional guidance or resources will be provided to assist the public and SSA employees in navigating this transition?
4. How long will it take the SSA to fully implement the new law? Over that period, what, if any, additional activities and what additional administrative burden (expressed in both work years and present value dollars) does the SSA anticipate it will incur because of the new law?

5. Understanding the administrative complexity of the two policies, what, if any, annual administrative cost savings are anticipated after the law is fully implemented because of the repeal of the WEP and GPO?

Further, we request that the SSA regularly report to Congress on the status of the agency's progress in implementing the *Social Security Fairness Act* in a timely manner. Thank you for your attention to this important matter, and we look forward to your prompt and comprehensive response to our questions.

Sincerely,



Jason Smith
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means



Ron Estes
Chairman
Subcommittee on Social Security
Committee on Ways and Means