

Quotes from Advocacy Organizations Opposing Payroll Tax Deferral

- “President Trump’s payroll tax scheme is a scam that leaves workers with a substantial tax bill right after the holiday season. Workers will have to pay double their regular payroll tax rate during the first four months of 2021 and if they cannot do so, they will have to pay interest and penalties on amounts still owed if they’re not paid back by May 1, 2021. In addition, any talk of making this deferral permanent is solely about defunding the Social Security system, so that it can be declared bankrupt and discontinued. **No one should view this as anything other than an attempt to undermine Social Security.**” – [American Federation of Government Employees \(AFGE\) President Everett Kelley](#)
- “On behalf of our 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, AARP writes to urge the Treasury Department and the Administration to rethink its attempt to provide economic stimulus to American workers via a payroll tax deferral. **While we agree that economic help for families impacted by the coronavirus is needed, AARP has serious concerns regarding the Administration’s decision to suspend the collection of payroll taxes, which potentially undermines Social Security’s long-term finances.**” - AARP President Nancy Leamon
- “Donald Trump once promised that he would be ‘the only Republican that doesn’t want to cut Social Security.’ We now know that what he meant is that cutting Social Security doesn’t go far enough for him: He wants to destroy Social Security. Donald Trump’s executive order, which seeks to defer Social Security contributions, is bad enough. But his promise to ‘terminate’ FICA contributions if he is reelected is a full-on declaration of war

against current and future Social Security beneficiaries.” - Social Security Works President Nancy Altman

- “Payroll tax cuts are an ineffective means of economic stimulus and provide zero relief to the millions of unemployed. Most importantly, payroll tax cuts interfere with the revenue flowing to Social Security and Medicare, programs which workers will be even more dependent on in their future retirement years. Make no mistake: payroll tax cuts are the first step in dismantling Americans’ earned benefits.” - National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare President Max Richtman
- “For eighty-five years, Social Security's financing has represented a compact among the generations to guarantee these critical benefits to working Americans and their families. Proposals to permanently end these payroll contributions and replace them with monies out of the government's general fund would not only require an extraordinary increase in general revenue spending but would fundamentally alter this highly revered system of financial security for millions of Americans.” - Paralyzed Veterans of America Associate Executive Director Heather Ansley, Esq, MSW