

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 24, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

As chairs of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the House Democratic Task Force on Aging and Families, we know how important H.R.5723 - the *Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust* – is to all Americans but particularly seniors and people of color. Consequently, we urge you to bring this bill to the House floor for a vote this Congress.

Our late, beloved colleague John Lewis proclaimed that Social Security was the next civil rights issue. We could not agree more. Five million of our fellow citizens, disproportionately people of color, live in poverty, despite FDR's signature Social Security. For this reason, people of color are more likely to rely on Social Security to provide necessary income.

Importantly, H.R. 5723 not only expands benefits both across-the-board and in targeted ways, it cuts Social Security's projected shortfall by more than half. It is wise policy and winning politics. We must act.

President Biden has called Social Security a "sacred trust" – a promise made by the federal government to its people. It is Congress' responsibility to ensure that Social Security's benefits are protected and improved. It's time we deliver.

The modest benefits Social Security currently provides are a lifeline for many of our constituents. Whether they be retired seniors, disabled veterans, or children who've lost a parent – millions rely on Social Security. Expanding and strengthening this vital institution, as H.R. 5723 does, will demonstrably improve their lives and our nation's economy.

Social Security is the #1 permanent anti-poverty program for the elderly and for children. Yet we know from our witness testimony and town halls that parents and grandparents often must choose between putting food on the table for their children or keeping a roof over their heads. They need their benefits improved now!

For all these reasons, we urge you to move H.R. 5723, *Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust*, to a vote in the House as soon as possible. As always, we appreciate your consideration of our views and our responsiveness.

Sincerely,



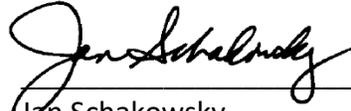
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Chair
Congressional Black Caucus



Raul Ruiz
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Congressional Hispanic Caucus



Judy Chu
Chair
Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus



Jan Schakowsky
Co-Chair
Task Force on Aging and Families



Doris Matsui
Co-Chair
Task Force on Aging and Families



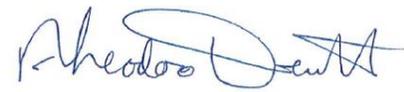
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Ted Deutch
Vice Chair
Task Force on Aging and Families

CC: Chairman Neal