



December 5, 2019

The Honorable John Larson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Social Security
Ways & Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Vern Buchanan
Ways & Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Larson and Representative Buchanan,

On behalf of our nearly 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, AARP is pleased to endorse the Know Your Social Security Act. This bipartisan bill would once again place vital, paper Social Security statements in the hands of millions of Americans, to help them more effectively plan for retirement, identify fraud and correct earnings records, and better understand their stake in Social Security.

The Social Security statement is an essential financial planning tool that provides key information on an individual's earnings and payroll tax contributions record, as well as an estimate of their earned monthly benefits. When Social Security sends this statement through the mail, more Americans are able to better plan for their future, not only due to an increased understanding of their Social Security benefits, but also any gaps in their current retirement plan. Having a hard copy of your Social Security statement also allows an individual to spot and correct errors or even to detect outright fraud. Finding and correcting these errors in a timely manner will save workers and the Social Security Administration frustration, time and money. Finally, when Americans receive an annual statement in the mail, it helps them better understand the importance of Social Security as part of their overall retirement plan. Paper statements are annual reminders, especially to younger workers, that they have contributed to Social Security and have earned a stake in the program.

AARP believes strongly that all Americans, unless they opt-out, should have access to their Social Security statements via mail. We are pleased to endorse the Know Your Social Security Act to once again place vital, paper statements in the hands of millions of Americans. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, or have your staff contact Tom Nicholls on our Government Affairs staff at tnicholls@aarp.org or (202) 434-3765.

Sincerely,

Bill Sweeney
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs