

JUSTICE IN AGING

FIGHTING SENIOR POVERTY THROUGH LAW

December 4, 2019

Dear Representatives Larson and Buchanan, and Senators Wyden and Cassidy,

Justice in Aging endorses the bipartisan Know Your Social Security Act, which would reaffirm SSA's obligation to send Social Security statements by mail to all workers each year. This legislation would clarify SSA's duty and ensure that workers understand the Social Security benefits they are earning over time.

Many people are not fully aware of the level of Social Security benefits they could receive when they retire, nor do they realize the Social Security benefits available for themselves and their family members in the event that they experience a disability that limits their capacity to work, or in the event that they pass away leaving a spouse, young children, or other eligible survivors. The Know Your Social Security Act would provide this important information, as required, to ensure that workers know what benefits are available to them and their loved ones, allowing them to better plan for retirement as they age.

We believe it is not only SSA's obligation to send these statements, but that it is vital to the well-being of workers who need to be fully informed about their potential Social Security benefits in order to make decisions about their own working lives, and their retirement. While those who choose to get this information electronically and decline a paper statement have clearly demonstrated their awareness of the benefits they may receive in the future, others who do not make this choice should receive the statement in the mail as required under the law. For these reasons, Justice in Aging supports this bill.

Sincerely,



Tracey Gronniger, Director of Economic Security

WASHINGTON

1444 Eye Street, NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005
202-289-6976

LOS ANGELES

3660 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 718
Los Angeles, CA 90010
213-639-0930

OAKLAND

1330 Broadway, Suite 525
Oakland, CA 94612
510-663-1055