

December 5, 2019

The Honorable John Larson  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Vern Buchanan  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
US Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Cassidy  
US Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representatives Larson, Buchanan and Senators Wyden and Cassidy:

The Coalition for Paper Options – an alliance of consumer organizations, labor unions, rural advocates, and print communications industry leaders is pleased to support today’s introduction of the bipartisan Know Your Social Security Act. Introduced in both the House and Senate, the bill would require the Social Security Administration to reinstate the mailing of annual Statement of Earnings until such time as a wage earner establishes an online account.

The annual Statement, which summarizes each wage earner’s recorded earnings and projects future retirement benefits, has been hailed as one of the most important financial planning tools that most Americans will ever see, yet the Social Security Administration stopped sending these statements to workers in 2017 without any congressional oversight. A report released in February 2019 by the Social Security Administration’s Inspector General highlights a tremendous decline in overall access since the primarily online-only policy took place.

The Know Your Social Security Act would reinstate the mailing of the Statements until a wage earner accesses their account through the my Social Security online portal. This would allow the Social Security Administration to economize as online participation grows, but it would not force citizens into online access before they choose or are able to manage it.

CPO’s diverse network of allies includes: Consumer Action, Social Security Works, the National Consumers League, the National Grange, the National Association of Letter Carriers, as well as leading organizations in the paper and print communications industry is pleased to endorse this important legislation and offer our full support.

Regards,



John Runyan  
Executive Director