



Representative Larson  
1501 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Representative Buchanan  
2427 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Senator Wyden  
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Senator Cassidy  
520 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

December 4, 2019

Dear Representative Larson, Representative Buchanan, Senator Wyden, and Senator Cassidy:

The Arc of the United States writes in support of the Know Your Social Security Act. The Arc is the largest national community-based organization advocating for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families.

Social Security statements are a crucial tool to help recipients plan for their future by providing accurate information about their earnings and future benefits. In addition, the statement raises awareness about all Social Security benefits, including about the Disability and Survivors Insurance that helps many people with I/DD. It also allows claimants to ensure that their earnings records are accurate.

We are concerned that recent changes that the Social Security Administration has made to only mail paper statements to a limited population means that many people are not receiving this crucial information. While the information may be available via the My Social Security website, less than half of registered users of the website checked their statements in 2018. In addition, low income households are less likely to have internet access at home and be able to access the website, despite the importance of Social Security benefits to these households; using library or other public internet sources is not advised due to the highly private nature of the information and the risk of identity theft. Without mailed statements, those households may have no access to the crucially important information about their Social Security benefits in the statement necessary to plan for their futures.

For these reasons, we strongly support the Know Your Social Security Act. Please contact Bethany Lilly at [lilly@thearc.org](mailto:lilly@thearc.org) with any questions, or if you would like to further discuss these issues.

Sincerely,

Bethany Lilly  
Director of Income Policy  
The Arc of the United States