National GPO/WEP Retirees Task Force

2/10/21 Update

We have a new repeal bill.

Representative Rodney Davis from Illinois came through for us again! He introduced the Social Security Fairness Act of 2021 on the very first day of the new session of Congress. It is [H.R. 82](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/82/cosponsors?r=1&s=1&searchResultViewType=expanded).

As many of you know, every two years all the bills that haven’t been passed and signed into law have to be re-introduced with a new bill number. We had 265 signatures from both parties and almost enough co-signers to force a vote in the House of Representatives last year for this bill (then numbered HR 141)  This year we will get there! (*All of CT Representatives except John Larson CD1 signed last year.)*

Any “fixes,” short of repeal, that have been proposed have so many caveats that they end up introducing more inequities. And cause more confusion.  Just get rid of the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision!

**We already have 53 co-signers but only Hayes from Connecticut**

**— get your Representative on that list**!

**Call or email your elected Member of Congress. Find the numbers below, and put their number on your speed dial.**

**Ask them to co-sign the new bill to repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision because it affects YOU and/or someone you care about!**

**Tell them some of these facts, of which they may not be aware:**

* The offsets affect people who have fully earned Social Security retirement or spousal benefits.
* Both the GPO and the WEP cause **lower income people to lose a larger percentage** of their retirement income than they do for wealthier retirees.
* Currently, more than half a million retirees **lose ALL** their earned spousal and survivor benefits because of the GPO.
* The cost to repeal both the GPO and the WEP is **less than 2%** of what Social Security pays out in benefits every year.
* The law requiring public employers to inform **new** employees that the offsets might affect their Social Security only became law in January, 2005. Many people still don’t understand the cuts to their benefits that are coming.

**Ask these Representatives to sign on as a co sponsor of H.R. 82.**

• U.S. Rep. John Larson (1st CD): 860-278-8888

• U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney (2nd CD): 860-886-0139

• U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro (3rd CD): 203-562-3718

U.S. Rep. Jim Himes (4th CD): 203-333-6600

**Thank Jahana Hayes for co-sponsoring H.R. 82.**

• U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (5th CD) 202-225-4476

***Ask that he/she WORK to get it passed in Congress THIS YEAR.***

***Be sure to tell him/her why it is important to you.***