

## Send your Congressman a letter and tell them:

- Congress needs to fund the Social Security Administration to meet public demand.
- Social Security is paid for from your FICA contributions and has a \$3 trillion trust fund.
- We've earned it, we've paid for it, we deserve it.
- Congress should restore SSA funding to 1.2% of funding (\$19.2 billion), including:
  - \$2.8 billion dedicated to staffing up the agency.
  - \$225 Million to improve pay and benefits.



## Americans earned their Social Security benefits; they deserve to access them when needed.

- Social Security protects retirees and disabled from extreme poverty and lifts millions of children out of poverty a year.
- This year Social Security will pay out \$1.3 trillion in benefits.

## SSA has been underfunded while beneficiaries are reaching an all-time high.

- Over the last decade SSA's budgets have been slashed by 18% (accounting for inflation).
- Staffing has been reduced by 15% and is at its lowest level in 27 years.
- Meanwhile, the number of beneficiaries has increased by 25%.

## Starving SSA of funding has led to a public service crisis.

- Field offices are closing, forcing the public to travel long distances for assistance.
- It takes 8 months for an initial disability decision and 2.5 years for a hearing decision.
- 30,000 Americans die and tens of thousands more go bankrupt while waiting for their decision.
- It can take almost an hour to get through on the National 1-800 number, with only about 65% of calls answered.

## Better serving the public will require a strong workforce.

- SSA is the worst federal agency to work for, ranked 17 out of 17 government agencies for the past two years.
- AFGE surveys show 76% say their pay does not reflect the complexity of work, and 56% are considering leaving in the next year.
- Social Security program rules, regulations, and policies are complex. It takes 2-5 years to recruit and fully train new SSA employees.

## Biden nominated and Congress confirmed Commissioner O'Malley.

- We are at a critical juncture. SSA is in crisis and needs a return to the historical level of funding the agency at 1.2% of outlays.
- 1.2% is highly efficient compared to the private sector that can operate around 20%.

## Find out more about your representatives:

Congressional voting record on Social Security by state:



Congressional voting record on federal employee issues by state:

