

Tell Congress and President Obama to: Celebrate Social Security's 80th Anniversary and Medicare & Medicaid's 50th!



PROTECT AND IMPROVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

NO CUTS/ NO PRIVATIZATION

PROTECT, IMPROVE AND EXPAND THESE VITAL PROGRAMS

**Congress must pass a budget by October - but not at the
expense of vital programs like Social Security, Medicare
and Medicaid!**

Here's what you can do:

- 1. Call the President (202) 456-1414, your Senators and Congressperson (877) 762-8762 and tell them- NO CUTS to Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid and NO PRIVATIZATION.**
- 2. Ask your friends, family members, and colleagues to call Congress and the President too – we need everyone around the country to call.**
- 3. Take this flyer to your local community groups, libraries, union halls, congregations, and senior centers – Help spread the word.**

California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)/ 877-223-6107 (TOLLFREE)

www.californiaalliance.org

ig/tng39521/cwa/afl-cio

SOCIAL SECURITY


Protect it, Preserve it, Pass it on

Some members of Congress want to cut Social Security benefits to pay for Wall

Street's greed. Even though 401(k)s were decimated by reckless bankers, home values plummeted and in many areas, are just starting to recover, and nest eggs are gone, conservative politicians continue to defend a lower overall payroll tax rate for millionaires than that paid by working and middle class families.

Social Security has a surplus of more than \$2 trillion — enough to cover benefits for the next 15-20 years. It is fully funded by the payroll contributions of American workers and employers; it doesn't contribute a dime to the nation's deficit. And now more than ever, Social Security benefits are critical to more than 50 million Americans who rely on them and to future workers and families who no longer have pensions or savings to help them retire — and who will depend on Social Security for their retirement income. **Instead of cutting benefits or raising the retirement age, our elected leaders should protect working families and **SCRAP the CAP!****

Right now, everyone pays Social Security taxes only on the first \$118,500 they earn. But after \$118,500, no contribution is made to Social Security — so a whole lot of wealthy people don't pay a dime in Social Security taxes on most of what they make. That's "the cap." Social Security could pay full benefits forever if higher wage earners and millionaires simply paid the same Social Security tax rate as most other people do. We could even afford to improve benefits if they paid — and make sure that those who have been left out of Social Security (some teachers and public employees are not eligible for Social Security) — are added in. **But unless we tell Congress to **SCRAP the CAP!** they could cut Social Security benefits, make more cuts than they already have in funding for Social Security Administration offices (which help people sign up for Social Security, SSI, Medicare and other benefits) and ultimately privatize Social Security.**



10 Reasons why Privatizing Social Security is BAD

1. DOES NOTHING TO STRENGTHEN Social Security.

2. CUTS BENEFITS.

3. AT THE MERCY OF MARKET RISKS and corporate misconduct.

4. COSTS MORE.

5. EXPLODES THE NATIONAL DEBT.

6. UNDERMINES SOCIAL SECURITY'S FAMILY PROTECTIONS.

7. FORCES WORKERS TO PAY HIGHER COSTS.

8. DIVERTS UP TO 20 PERCENT OF THE FUNDS to admin. costs.

9. CREATES AN IMMEDIATE \$2 TRILLION FINANCIAL CRISIS.

10. DESTROYS THE GUARANTEED, INFLATION-PROOF BENEFITS of Social Security.

Several bills have been introduced in Congress to Strengthen Social Security and **SCRAP the CAP!**

You can help Social Security have a great 80th birthday by calling your Congressman and Senators (Boxer and Feinstein) and urge them to support these bills and **Save Social Security for generations to come.** Use the toll-free Capitol switchboard at: 877-762-8762.

*For more information call the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA)
877-223-6107 (tollfree)
www.californiaalliance.org*