

Legislative Report

The State committee met on the first day of the State Convention to come up with a Federal Agenda. We discussed Social Security issues and we were assured that Social Security is stable and can pay full benefits until at least 2034. After 2034 it will be able to pay about 79% of all benefits owed. The modest increases that current recipients have received the last few years fail to keep pace with their financial needs as medical costs rise and prices rise for basic necessities. Basing the cost of living index on a CPI for Elderly would assure that their buying power would not erode over time. Therefore, we are supporting a bill to strengthen and expand social security.

Social Security for Future Generations/Social Security Expansion Act

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code and Social Security Act to apply employment and self-employment taxes to remuneration up to the contribution and benefit base (\$127,000 in 2017) and to use the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E) to compute benefits. HR2855 Al Larson S427 Bernard Sanders

Senior Citizens Freedom to Work Act/Let Seniors Work Act

These bills would amend title II (Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act to eliminate the Federal payroll tax with respect to the earnings of an individual who has attained retirement age and remove the limitations on the amount of outside income than an OASDI beneficiary can earn without a reduction in benefits.

HR3077 Sam Johnson S158 Marco Rubio

Medical costs are soaring, but something can be done about the increasingly astronomic cost of prescription drugs. Medicare is currently unable to negotiate prices for Medicare approved prescription drugs. We are supporting a bill that would change that. Prescription drug price negotiation has been a priority for us for several years. Now it is getting the attention it deserves in Washington.

Prescription Reduction in Costs for Everyone (PRICE) Act/Empowering Seniors to Negotiate Drug Prices Act

These bills allow the President or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to negotiate drug prices under the Medicare prescription drug benefit and institute a price structure for the reimbursement of drugs covered under the benefit.

HR1775 Peter DeFazio S1688 Amy Klobuchar

The tragedy of school violence has sent shock waves through this country. We will support efforts at the State and Federal level to ensure safe schools. We also support: Efforts to ensure School Safety. In addition to grants for training, metal detectors and other devices to ensure school safety, we call for mental health support for students and educators, more counselors in schools and after-school programs;