

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515

March 4, 2024

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chairman  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Neal:

As the lead sponsors of H.R. 82 – the Social Security Fairness Act, we write to you today to request that the U.S. House Committee on Ways & Means continue its efforts to provide relief to those who are unfairly harmed by Social Security’s Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). As you know, for decades the WEP and the GPO have unfairly reduced Social Security benefits for millions of public servants.

We are grateful for the field hearing the Committee held on November 20<sup>th</sup> on the topic of the WEP and GPO. This forum gave your members the opportunity to hear directly from retired police officers, teachers, firefighters, government employees and others who have been hurt for far too long by these shortsighted provisions. In the months since the Committee’s hearing, we understand that you have received more than 800 additional submissions of testimony for the hearing record from Americans who have experienced the devastating impacts of WEP and GPO.

With more than 300 bipartisan cosponsors, H.R. 82 – The Social Security Fairness Act is currently the second-most cosponsored bill in the U.S. House of Representatives and represents the most widely supported legislative proposal before Congress to support retirees. Our bill would fully repeal both WEP and GPO, providing direct relief to three percent of beneficiaries – including public servants in every sector on fixed incomes whose retirement benefits have been unfairly reduced or eliminated as a result of their dedication to public service. We believe that H.R. 82 is the best solution, and we remain committed to working together with Committee leadership on a fair path forward.

We urge you to proceed with the next step in the legislative process by bringing up H.R.82 for a markup. We are open to the Committee’s feedback on our bill through this process. However, hundreds of advocates who took the time to share their stories with your committee and millions of constituents across the country deserve a response. Congress cannot continue turning a blind eye to the broad array of Republican and Democratic Members of Congress, and the diverse coalition of Americans they represent, who have called on Congress to pass this bipartisan legislation as soon as possible.

We thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to protecting America’s retirees, and we look forward to working with you to bring H.R.82 to the full U.S. House floor for a vote.

Sincerely,



Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



Abigail Spanberger  
Member of Congress