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CoMPASS E-Card: Social Security's 70th Birthday Cake Will Be Crumbs for Future Generations

Reform is Needed or Future Retirees Won't Have Much to Celebrate

Washington, D.C. – As Social Security celebrates its 70th birthday on August 14, a leading advocate of reform today distributed a birthday card warning that unless the program is fixed, future generations won't have much to celebrate when they retire.

The e-card, created by the Coalition for the Protection and Modernization of America's Social Security (CoMPASS), is being sent to Members of Congress, students and reform supporters across the country. It can be found at:
<http://www.generationstogether.net/crumbs.html>.

When Social Security was established on August 14, 1935, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt said the program "will take care of human needs and at the same time provide the United States an economic structure of vastly greater soundness." But 70 years later, the program faces a future of red ink that cannot be sustained.

"Congress must act this year to ensure that Social Security remains strong, so that future generations can celebrate its benefits as today's retirees can – not with leftover crumbs," said Derrick Max, Executive Director of CoMPASS. "Congress must come back from the August recess focused and ready to enact legislation that puts Social Security on a path towards solvency and includes optional personal retirement accounts."

"As students, this birthday celebration is bittersweet," said Jonathan Swanson, co-founder of Students for Saving Social Security and a CoMPASS Advisory Board member. "We are happy that Social Security has been there for our parents and grandparents, but we are worried about what will be available for us and our children. We're sending this e-birthday card to all of our campus chapters, friends and to our representatives as a reminder that Congress must pass Social Security reform. This is our future, and our generation must be heard."

The 465 member organizations of CoMPASS believe that Social Security reform should protect benefits for seniors and those nearing retirement; create new voluntary personal

retirement accounts for younger workers; put the program on a path to long-term solvency; and ensure that taxes are not increased on employers or employees.

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Generations Together (www.generationstogether.net) is a project of the Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security (CoMPASS). CoMPASS is a 501 (c) (4) with the mission of educating the public on, and advocating for, fundamental Social Security reform.