



Congress must act now on Social Security reform

Published Sunday, September 11, 2005

Editor, the Tribune: I have become increasingly concerned about the ability of Social Security to provide benefits for future generations, and I'm not alone. I understand a recent Gallup poll shows that nearly three out of four Americans believe that Social Security is in crisis or facing major problems. If that many Americans recognize that there is a problem, why can't Congress work to find a solution?

Democrats and Republicans in Congress need to come together and pass real Social Security reform that fixes and improves the system. This should be done without increasing my taxes because history shows us that raising taxes won't help. The Social Security payroll tax has gone up from 2 percent to 12.4 percent in the past half-century, yet this has not meant stability and solvency for the system.

By allowing younger workers today the option of investing part of their Social Security month in voluntary personal retirement accounts, Congress can allow workers to build nest eggs for retirement. This can be done without affecting the benefits of those near or in retirement.

Congress needs to take on this issue this fall. By waiting, lawmakers only make the problem worse and more expensive to solve.

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