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CoMPASS Welcomes New Social Security Proposals

Max: "It's the job of Congress to solve the problems facing Americans, and Americans expect Congress to do its job"

WASHINGTON – Derrick Max, Executive Director of the Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security (CoMPASS), today issued the following statement regarding new Social Security reform legislative proposals recently put forward by Senators Jim DeMint (R-SC) and Robert Bennett (R-UT), and Congressmen Sam Johnson (R-TX), Jim McCrery (R-LA), Clay Shaw (R-FL) and Paul Ryan (R-WI).

"The hundreds of business, civic, senior and student organizations that make up the CoMPASS coalition believe that any final Social Security reform legislation must contain four key elements. It must protect benefits for seniors and those nearing retirement; give younger workers the option of personal retirement accounts; put the program on a path to long-term financial stability; and avoid raising taxes on employers or employees.

"The best way to achieve Social Security reform is for Congress to engage in a full, open and bipartisan debate on this important issue. **To that end, we welcome all proposals that will move this process forward, commend those who are offering alternatives, and encourage others to offer their solutions to this growing marketplace of ideas.**

"It's clear that the American people understand that the financial future of Social Security is in trouble and that Congress must adopt reforms. **Democratic obstructionists should also pay close attention to a recent New York Times/CBS News Poll that found that 67 percent of those surveyed wanted Democrats to offer an alternative to the President's proposal, while only one in four wanted Social Security left unchanged.** Democrats should put forward their own proposal and work towards a solution.

"Opponents are playing politics with retirement security. We urge them to stop playing politics with the future and work with us to help address this looming crisis. It's the job of Congress to solve the problems facing Americans, and Americans expect Congress to do its job."

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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.