



**September 16, 2005**

## **All Americans need a solvent Social Security system**

**Dear Editor:**

I would like to comment on the letters to the editor in the Aug. 24 issue. There were two that were printed that mentioned Social Security.

David Mitchell, AARP Arizona state director, writes about the history of Social Security and says Social Security needs to be strengthened.

The second letter, written by a mother of four children, Kristin Curtin, writes about Social Security reform legislation that includes voluntary personal retirement accounts!

I have to agree with Kristin's views. It is now safe to say that we are all aware of the immediate need to reform Social Security before the funding runs out of money, which is expecting to happen.

I am wondering about what our leaders in Washington, D.C., are thinking when they insist on putting reform legislation on the back burner.

American workers of all ages need and deserve a Social Security system that makes the system solvent, includes the opportunity to invest Social Security taxes in a personal retirement account, protects seniors' benefits and doesn't increase payroll taxes.

I expect our Arizona representatives in Congress to work together across political party lines on the issues that affect me the most. The Social Security system in this country needs more than just partisan politicking; it needs serious, long-lasting reform. The longer Congress waits to act on this, the more the Social Security benefits of future retirees are endangered by an insolvent system.

**William Martinez**