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CoMPASS Challenges AFL-CIO Leaders to Disclose Polling Methodology

CoMPASS has released all information on survey showing union members support Social Security reform and personal retirement accounts

Washington, DC – Derrick Max, Executive Director of the Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America’s Social Security (CoMPASS), today challenged AFL-CIO management to disclose their polling information on union members’ views on Social Security reform.

“Our *Generations Together* poll, which we’ve released the methodology and survey for and been 100 percent transparent on, shows widespread support among union members for fixing Social Security *now* and for personal retirement accounts,” said Max. “If union management is going to claim that their polls have different results, then they should back up their claims and disclose the full poll, methodology and specific questions.”

The national survey commissioned by CoMPASS found that union members overwhelmingly support action now by Congress to fix Social Security. The poll showed that union members support creation of personal retirement accounts by a 2-1 margin, as long as there are no changes to benefits for seniors and those nearing retirement. In fact, nearly 60 percent of union members showed interest in creating a personal retirement account if given the option.

The national survey of 600 union members who are still in the workforce was conducted March 6-10 by Ayres, McHenry & Associates, and has a margin of error of ± 4.0 percent. The full questionnaire and a summary of findings have been made available to the media and the public and can be found at www.generationstogether.net.

AFL-CIO officials have said that their polls show that 60 percent of union households oppose Social Security reform.

“Our poll shows strong union member support for reform while the AFL-CIO claims its polls show the opposite,” added Max. “The best way to allow people to compare these conflicting findings is for both sides to put out their questions and their methodology. Perhaps they are afraid to release the details because it would reveal the true desires of their members – to help find a solution to the looming Social Security crisis.”

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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.