



November 9, 2005

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security (CoMPASS) – comprised of more than 530 business, senior, student and advocacy organizations – believes that provisions to fix Social Security must be included in any retirement security legislation passed by Congress.

Real retirement security requires reforming Social Security, as many of America's retirees rely on Social Security. A stronger Social Security system will mean retirement security for current and future retirees, and CoMPASS urges Congress to pass legislation that reforms pension laws **and** fixes Social Security.

The need for Social Security reform is an issue that will not go away, as the problem will only get worse – jeopardizing the retirement security of future generations.

As you know, the longer the debate on Social Security reform goes on, the greater the cost of fixing it will be to the taxpayer. For every year Congress does not act, the cost of reform will grow by \$600 billion – or \$2,000 per year for every American. That's an additional cost taxpayers can do without.

CoMPASS members understand that limited time remains in the 2005 Congressional session and that a number of issues are competing for attention. However, we strongly believe that Social Security reform should be part of the priority action list for this fall.

We urge you to show the commitment, leadership and political courage necessary to fix Social Security as part of retirement security legislation, and we are highlighting our commitment to this issue with advertising, grassroots and media outreach.

Specifically, we encourage the House Ways and Means Committee to add Social Security reforms to the retirement security bill, and we urge the full House of Representatives to support these reforms when the legislation comes to the floor.

The broad and diverse membership of CoMPASS believes that any final Social Security legislation must meet four key principles: It must protect benefits for seniors and those nearing retirement, give younger workers the option of personal retirement accounts, put the program on the path to long-term financial stability, and avoid raising taxes on employers or employees.

We look forward to working with you to seize this opportunity to provide Americans of all generations with a more secure retirement.

Sincerely;