



CoMPASS Poll Showing Seniors Support Fixing Social Security Now Gains Widespread Media Attention

“The survey... shows 65 percent of AARP members believe ‘significant changes are needed to ensure their children and grandchildren will get the Social Security benefits they have been promised.’ ”—Roll Call



Poll: Older Americans Back Private Accounts For Younger

“A majority of older Americans support offering private accounts within Social Security to younger workers so long as seniors' benefits aren't touched, according to a new poll released Tuesday by a corporate-backed group that supports President George W. Bush's Social Security proposal.

The survey commissioned by Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security, or CoMPASS, is being touted as a challenge to AARP, the powerful senior citizens lobby that opposes the White House Social Security overhaul effort.

CoMPASS said 60% of Americans ages 55 or older in its survey say that offering personal retirement accounts to younger workers is a good idea, so long as nothing changes in their own Social Security benefits.”

The New York Times

For Social Security, 2 Crucial Weeks Near

“A business coalition supporting the president's proposal, the Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security, or Compass, is taking aim at AARP this week with a new poll and advertising campaign.

Compass says its polling of older Americans shows that a majority of those who are AARP members support private investment accounts for younger workers, so long as their own benefits remain unchanged. The coalition will begin running newspaper advertisements in Washington this week pointing to the poll results, and it sent a letter to AARP on Tuesday asking the organization to ‘reassess its hostility to Social Security reform and to craft a policy position that better reflects the views of its membership.’ ”

The Washington Times

Social Security poll heartens Bush

“Three-fifths of people 55 and older think Social Security private accounts for younger workers are a good idea, as long as their own benefits remain untouched, according to a poll being released today by key supporters of President Bush's effort.

The poll -- commissioned by the leading grass-roots lobbying coalition that supports private accounts -- is meant to counter polls that have found support low for Mr. Bush's idea.

Its findings also could encourage House Republicans as they head home next week to sell the idea in their district.

‘The message is that when seniors are educated, they're supportive,' said Derrick Max, executive director of Coalition for the Modernization and Protection of America's Social Security, the lobbying group that commissioned the poll. "I hope it encourages members of Congress to talk to seniors.’ ”



Privatization Pains

“...CoMPASS is fighting back...with the release today of a poll that, according to a news release, will raise “serious questions” about the senior lobby AARP’s position on Social Security.

The survey of 800 voters 55 and older was conducted by Republican pollster Whit Ayres. It found that three-fifths believe offering personal retirement accounts is a good idea, as long as their own benefits are untouched, with AARP members slightly more likely to agree.

The survey further shows 65 percent of AARP members — and 66 percent of non-AARP members — believe ‘significant changes are needed to ensure their children and grandchildren will get the Social Security benefits they have been promised.’ ”

###

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.