



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 9, 2005

Contact: Tita Freeman
202.496.3269

CoMPASS Urges Congress to Include Critically Needed Social Security Reforms in Retirement Security Bill

New CoMPASS Ad Seeks Action on Social Security's Growing Problems

Washington, DC – The Coalition for the Protection and Modernization of Social Security (CoMPASS), representing more than 530 senior, student, business and advocacy groups, today urged Congress to include Social Security reforms in the retirement security legislation being considered by the House Ways and Means Committee. The Coalition is running a new advertisement, sending a letter to all members of the House and continuing its nationwide grassroots outreach to advocate for comprehensive Social Security reform.

The advertisement reads: "Passing retirement reform without including much-needed Social Security reform is like overhauling a car without fixing the engine," and shows a cartoon of a car without an engine. "Real retirement security for Americans requires fixing Social Security."

In its letter to House Members, CoMPASS wrote: "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." It noted that each year of delay adds \$600 billion to the cost of reforms.

CoMPASS urged the House Ways and Means Committee to include Social Security reforms in the pension bill now before the panel, and also called for the full House to support the changes.

The broad membership of CoMPASS has joined together behind four core principles for overall Social Security reform, protecting benefits for seniors and those nearing retirement, giving younger workers the option of personal retirement accounts, putting the program on the path to long-term financial stability, and avoiding taxes increases on employers or employees.

The letter to Congress and the latest CoMPASS ad can be found at www.generationstogether.net.

###

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.