



IAM
UNION

International Association of Machinists
& Aerospace Workers

IAM Supports Legislation to Protect, Secure, and Improve Social Security Benefits

It is the IAM's firm belief that after a lifetime of hard work and dedication, working people should be able to retire with dignity and economic security. Preferably, a worker's retirement income stream should be derived from three sources - social security, a defined benefit pension, and the retiree's personal savings. Unfortunately, there are many powerful interests, from profit-obsessed corporate decision makers to unfeeling conservative ideologues, who aim to erode our path to a secure retirement. **The Machinists Union continues to fight on every battlefield where the retirement security of our members is in jeopardy.**

Social Security is a highly popular program that has delivered guaranteed, lifetime benefits without interruption to generations of Americans. These beneficiaries earned their Social Security by contributing into the system with every paycheck. Nearly sixty-five million older Americans, people with disabilities and family members of deceased workers – one out of every five households – relies on Social Security. Additionally, nearly 182 million active workers contribute to Social Security with every paycheck through payroll taxes.

The IAM firmly believes full Social Security benefits must continue to be paid to all current beneficiaries and to all active contributing workers once it is their turn to enjoy retirement. Unfortunately, many Republicans in Congress and across the current Administration have plans to make deep cuts to Social Security (along with Medicare and Medicaid) in order to extend huge tax cuts to corporations and the wealthy one percent. The IAM will work with all allies to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid and stop these GOP attacks in their tracks.

Additionally, the Machinists Union strongly believes to continue to provide retirement security for current and future generations, Congress must

strengthen and expand Social Security by increasing benefits, rather than reducing them. The Machinists Union categorically opposes any attempts to reduce Social Security benefits, and we oppose any policy prescriptions that will lead to the weakening of the Social Security system. This includes policy proposals to raise the full retirement age, partial or full privatize the program, or the creation of “special commissions” or “expert panels” to make decisions that adversely affect Social Security and its beneficiaries.

To continue to provide retirement security for current and future generations, it is time to strengthen and expand Social Security and increase benefits. **The Machinists Union strongly supports federal legislation that increases and expands Social Security benefits and extends the solvency of the Social Security Trust Fund.**