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## **Retiree Voting Record Released**

## Data Circulated as Members Meet at Western Regional Conference

**Washington, DC** – The Alliance for Retired Americans today released its 2015 voting record <u>report</u> which scored every U.S. Representative and Senator on issues affecting current and future retirees. The voting record examined 10 key Senate and House votes in 2015, showing the roll calls on issues such as:

- attacks on core earned benefits programs: Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid;
- passing fast track trade authority, which eliminated the ability to scrutinize and amend proposed trade agreements that lock in higher drug prices; and
- addressing income inequality by raising the minimum wage

The release comes as Alliance for Retired Americans members from the Western part of the country are meeting in Las Vegas to sharpen their organizing and advocacy skills.

"Unfortunately, the new Congress that came to town did not help improve the nation's retirement security," said Robert Roach, Jr., President of the Alliance. "We had an opportunity for change but we didn't take advantage of it. Nine of 12 freshman Republican Senators scored zero, and the others scored 10%."

133 U.S. House members achieved perfect scores of 100 percent in 2015 while 31 received scores of zero. The House Ways and Means Committee Chairman/now House Speaker Paul Ryan (WI), Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (CA), Majority Whip Steve Scalise (LA), and Budget Committee Chairman Tom Price (GA) all scored 10% on legislation that was important to seniors in 2015.

Thirty-three members of the U.S. Senate achieved perfect scores of 100 percent in 2015, while another 28 received zeroes. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (KY), Majority Whip John Cornyn (TX), and Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (UT) all scored 10% this year. Budget Committee Chairman Mike Enzi (WY) scored 0%.

"This Voting Record reflects how committed our elected representatives are to seniors," Mr. Roach said. "It will be a useful tool as we look at who our friends truly are."

"Each year the Alliance releases this report to educate, help create an America that protects the health and economic security of retirees, and strengthen families. Higher scores on the 2015 Voting Record reflect a record of actions to protect, support and expand our core retiree programs of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, rather than tear them apart."

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The Alliance for Retired Americans is a national organization that advocates for the rights and well being of over 4.3 million retirees and their families.

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