



Adopted April 28, 2026

(Submitted by the Rhode Island Alliance)

## **Resolution Congratulating the WEP-GPO Repeal Task Force for Their Work in the Passage of the Social Security Fairness Act**

**Whereas** on January 5, 2025, former President Joe Biden signed H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, into law; and

**Whereas** the legislation was introduced by Representative Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) and Representative Garret Graves (R-LA), with a Senate companion bill introduced by Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME); and

**Whereas** the Social Security Fairness Act repeals the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which had long reduced or eliminated Social Security benefits for public servants and their spouses and survivors; and

**Whereas** these provisions unfairly penalized millions of retired federal, state, and local government employees, including teachers, police officers, firefighters, and postal workers, who dedicated their careers to public service; and

**Whereas** repeal of the GPO and WEP was the result of over a decade of sustained advocacy by the Task Force, co-chaired by Bette Marafino, the President of the Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans, and

**Whereas** the enactment of the Social Security Fairness Act restores full earned Social Security benefits to more than 2.5 million retirees and provides many with an increase of up to \$600 per month, with benefits calculated retroactively to 2024; and

**Whereas** this landmark achievement represents a major step forward in promoting fairness, dignity, and economic security for America's public servants; and

**Whereas** the Alliance passed a Resolution during the 2014 membership convention titled "Opposing the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision;" and

**Whereas** the Alliance has strongly supported the National Task Force since its inception in May 2020, and provided the virtual platform for the group to meet regularly, with the support of an ARA staff representative; and

**Therefore, be it resolved** that the Alliance for Retired Americans commends and congratulates these tireless advocates, whose persistence and dedication made the passage of the Social Security Fairness Act possible; and

**Therefore, be it further resolved** that the Alliance celebrates the restoration of full Social Security benefits as a matter of fairness and justice for those who have devoted long years of service their communities; and

**Therefore, be it finally resolved** that the Alliance reaffirms our commitment to protect and strengthen Social Security for all current and future beneficiaries.