



Adopted April 28, 2026

(Submitted by the Maryland/DC Alliance)

Resolution Protecting Social Security Administration Services, Workforce, and Integrity

Whereas the Social Security Administration (SSA) provides essential services to millions of Americans who rely on timely access to earned benefits and administrative support; and

Whereas SSA has experienced significant erosion in staffing and resources, including a reduction of approximately 7,000 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employees in Fiscal Year 2025, largely through early retirement and buyout incentives implemented without sufficient analysis of the impact on public service; and

Whereas these staffing reductions have left many SSA offices with insufficient personnel to provide adequate service, with some offices effectively ceasing operations due to lack of staff; and

Whereas SSA has closed or threatened to close field offices, hearings offices, and resident stations, and has taken steps to limit public access to in-person services; and

Whereas many seniors and individuals with disabilities rely on community-based SSA offices as their preferred and most accessible method of receiving services, and may face barriers to using online or telephone-based systems; and

Whereas SSA has increasingly shifted service delivery away from in-person interactions without adequately assessing public preferences or ensuring equitable access to services; and

Whereas there is currently no consistent statutory framework governing when and how SSA may close, consolidate, or restrict access to its offices; and

Whereas SSA's administrative funding has declined from approximately 1.2 percent of benefits paid to approximately 0.85 percent, contributing to severe service deterioration, longer wait times, and diminished customer service; and

Whereas Social Security benefits are earned and guaranteed by law, but the administrative funding necessary to operate SSA is subject to annual appropriations, creating instability in service delivery; and

Whereas actions taken during the Trump Administration, including the closure of key SSA offices such as the Office of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity, the Transformation Office, and the Office of Analytics, Review, and Oversight, as well as workforce restructuring efforts, have further weakened the agency's capacity; and

Whereas policies increasing overpayment recovery withholding rates from 10 percent to 50 percent of beneficiaries' monthly checks have placed additional financial strain on vulnerable populations; and

Whereas concerns have been raised regarding the access, handling, and potential disclosure of SSA beneficiary data by outside entities, including the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE); and

Whereas legislative proposals such as the Keep Billionaires Out of Social Security Act, S. 2763, would protect SSA from external interference, restore administrative capacity, safeguard workforce protections, and ensure adequate funding; and

Whereas the Keeping Our Field Offices Open Act, H.R. 1876, would establish a moratorium on SSA office closures through January 21, 2029, require comprehensive analysis and reporting before any future closures or service changes, mandate public input through hearings, and ensure that the number of SSA offices does not fall below January 20, 2025 levels;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans strongly supports the passage of the Keep Billionaires Out of Social Security Act, which would:

- Prohibit SSA from being placed under the jurisdiction of DOGE or similar external entities;

- Limit the conversion of career SSA employees to excepted service positions;
- Restore previously eliminated SSA offices critical to oversight and civil rights protections;
- Ensure SSA administrative funding is restored to at least 1.2 percent of benefits paid and remove such funding from the constraints of annual appropriations;
- Protect beneficiaries by restoring limits on overpayment recovery to no more than 10 percent of monthly benefits; and
- Prohibit the closure or reduction of access to SSA field offices, hearings offices, resident stations, and rural contact stations;

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Alliance strongly supports the passage of the Keeping Our Field Offices Open Act, and any companion Senate legislation, to:

- Establish a moratorium on the closure, consolidation, or reduced access to SSA offices through January 21, 2029;
- Require SSA to develop transparent, data-driven criteria for any future office changes, including cost-benefit analysis, service replacement plans, workforce impact assessments, and accessibility considerations;
- Mandate public hearings to ensure community input is incorporated into decision-making; and
- Preserve at minimum the number of SSA offices in existence as of January 20, 2025;

Therefore, be it finally resolved that the Alliance affirms the fundamental right of Social Security beneficiaries to access services in the manner that best meets their needs, including in-person service through fully staffed community-based offices.