

Dear Representative [Name]:

I am writing as a rural carrier and constituent of your district to voice my strong support for the Social Security Fairness Act. I urge you to cosponsor H.R. 82, a bipartisan bill introduced by Rep. Garret Graves and Rep. Abigail Spanberger. H.R. 82 would repeal provisions that reduce Social Security benefits for rural letter carriers who receive other benefits such as a state or local government pension.

H.R. 82 restores retirement benefits for rural letter carriers, and other public servants, who are impacted by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). Both provisions unfairly penalize and reduce retirees' incomes by thousands of dollars every year. When a retiree is living on a fixed income, this reduction in retirement benefits can have a significant impact on the retiree.

The WEP applies to retirees who receive both a pension from non-covered work and Social Security benefits. WEP can reduce a retiree's benefit by as much as \$512 per month. Currently, there are about 2 million retirees impacted by WEP. The GPO reduces most, and sometimes all of, a spouse's or widow's benefits for retirees who also receive a pension for non-Social Security work.

Please support H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act. Both the WEP and GPO unfairly penalize rural letter carriers who choose a career in public service. By co-sponsoring H.R. 82, you will help ensure the dedicated and hard working men and women will receive the retirement benefits they have earned.

Thank you for your continued dedication and attention to this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about my request.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]