

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 10, 2019

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building

The Honorable John Larson
Chairman, Social Security Subcommittee
1102 Longworth House Office Building

Dear Chairman Neal and Social Security Subcommittee Chairman Larson,

Thank you for convening this hearing on comprehensive legislative proposals to reform Social Security. This hearing is an important part of regular order and making sure Social Security reform is done the right way. We want to work with Ways and Means Democrats to strengthen and improve Social Security for hard working Americans, without devastating tax increases.

We need to make sure that any changes we make are good for young people, small businesses, and our economy. Thanks to tax reform, millennials finally have an economy that is working for them. Social Security reform shouldn't increase benefits for seniors by making it harder for young people to save for retirement, pay off student loans, or start their own business. And as we've heard from previous witnesses, payroll tax rate increases make it harder to hire more people, give workers raises, or even start a small business in the first place. With our economy finally booming thanks to tax reform, now is not the time to raise taxes on hard working, young Americans and on Main Street. We should reward work, not penalize it.

Ways and Means Republicans are focused on securing benefits for generations without tax increases. We will accomplish this goal by following the LEAP principles:

- Long-term economic growth by rewarding work, not penalizing it,
- Equal treatment for public servants,
- Act now to protect those future generations, and
- Protect the most vulnerable people through focused reforms.

Now is the time for us to work together to make sure Social Security is there for America's seniors, individuals with disabilities, and our children for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Kevin Brady
Republican Leader
Committee on Ways and Means



Tom Reed
Republican Leader
Social Security Subcommittee