

STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY

...don't cut it.

March 2, 2016

The Honorable Patrick Murphy
United States House of Representatives
211 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Murphy

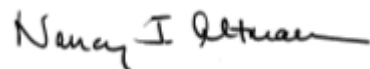
The Strengthen Social Security Coalition, a broad-based alliance of over 350 national and statewide organizations, including, among many others, women's, labor, aging, disability, veterans, and civil rights groups, representing over 50 million Americans, applauds you for introducing the Social Security Parent Penalty Repeal Act.

Parental involvement is an essential function during a child's early, formative years. Your legislation would remove a disincentive that parents now face in choosing to take time away from work to care for their children. It increases their retirement security.

This bill not only supports American families, but aims to enhance the national economy given the rising costs of caregiving and the impending retirement security crisis. Caregiving currently leads to significant reductions in wages and Social Security benefits, but this legislation recognizes the importance of caregiving and ensures somewhat higher retirement benefits otherwise lost as the result of rearing children. Your legislation would ensure that caregivers receive somewhat higher Social Security benefits, while fully paying for the additional cost.

Our coalition believes Social Security should be expanded for all workers and their families and that the wealthiest among us should pay their fair share. We see your legislation as a very important step in that direction. Thank you for your efforts to strengthen Social Security. We look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,



Nancy J. Altman
Coalition Co-Chair