

# United States Senate

HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
SUITE 112  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0505  
(202) 224-3553  
<http://boxer.senate.gov/contact>

May 30, 2009

Committee for Social Security Fairness  
234 Remington Loop  
Danville, CA 92452

Dear Friends:

Please accept my warmest greetings as you gather today to advocate for fairness in Social Security benefits. Although I am unable to be with you, please know that I am here in spirit.

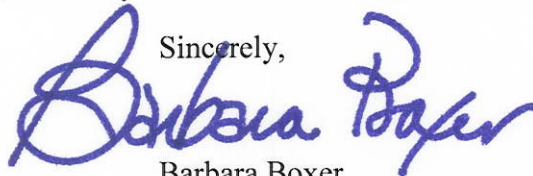
As you know, during the Social Security overhauls in 1977 and 1983, two provisions – the Government Pension Offset Provision and the Windfall Elimination Provision – were added to prevent public employees from receiving undue compensation. Unfortunately, the real impact unjustly under-compensates people who choose public service.

I am pleased to let you know that I have joined the effort to repeal these two provisions of Social Security law that negatively impact so many of our public servants, including teachers. I am an original co-sponsor of S.484, the Social Security Fairness Act of 2009. This legislation would repeal both the government pension offset and the windfall elimination provisions. Both of these provisions reduce Social Security benefits for public servants or their spouses despite the fact that they have paid into Social Security.

At a time when many people are facing retirement during an economic downturn, we should endeavor to provide public employees with greater financial security in their retirement years. These changes are also important to our schools as they seek to retain the best teachers. This legislation will make it possible for them to offer more secure retirement futures for their staff members.

As you work today to bring attention to this most important issue, please know that I stand beside you. Again, I send my best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator