CLAY HIGGINS 3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

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NATIONAL SECURITY, THE BORDER, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

December 10, 2024

Fellow Advocates,

As you well know, the *Social Security Fairness Act* (H.R. 82) passed the House on Tuesday, November 12, with 327 votes in favor. A majority of both parties supported the bill's passage. The Senate companion legislation to H.R. 82 currently has 62 co-sponsors, including Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, 13 members of the Senate GOP Conference, and notably Vice President-elect J.D. Vance. There is a clear, bicameral, bipartisan consensus of support for passing this overdue legislation.

This bill is not only one of the most co-sponsored in history, but it also has the support of nearly every major professional organization representing law enforcement, teachers, firefighters, and other public servants. The outpouring of support thus far has been encouraging but now is not the time to give up. This is the time for action. If H.R. 82 is not passed before the end of the year, the swamp will win, and we will again be forced to start anew in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress. This is the best opportunity we have ever had to pass H.R. 82, and we must not let this moment go to waste.

For decades, both sides have recognized the failures of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). These provisions, originally meant to bring accountability to government benefits have stolen countless billions of dollars that rightly belong to our nation's senior citizens.

There is only one bill that can end the injustice caused by WEP and GPO—H.R. 82, the *Social Security Fairness Act*. I urge you to stand with me now in calling on Majority Leader Schumer to bring H.R. 82 for a vote in the Senate. This is all we ask.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins

Member of Congress