

Leg-200-200

December 26, 1974

[redacted]
9408 Outlook Drive
Overland Park, Kansas 66207

Dear [redacted]:

Thank you very much for your letter expressing your concern about the Social Security program.

I can appreciate your concern with this matter and agree that it is important that the Social Security trust fund be maintained in a solvent and stable condition. I can also appreciate the burden that is being placed on the taxpayers of the younger generation who must sustain this fund at the level that is able to meet the payments that are necessary. It would appear that the Social Security program is being stretched to its limits in meeting the needs of our elderly, and I feel it is time that we look to other sources of assistance if they are needed.

I have recommended that other forms of tax credits for our elderly be examined, and I also feel that we must do everything possible to control inflation, for it is the impact of inflation which is making the additional Social Security payment increases necessary.

Appreciate having the benefit of your views on this matter, and you may be assured I will keep your letter in mind as further legislative action is taken in this area.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
United States Senate

BD:sht

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9408 Outlook Drive
Overland Park, Kansas 66207

November 14, 1974

Honorable Robert Dole
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Re: Plight of the Social Security Program

Dear Senator Dole:

I have just read in the November, 1974 issue of "Nation's Business" an article about the sad plight of the Social Security program and the fact that it is fast approaching insolvency, due to what seems to me to have been the irresponsible extension of benefits (not only as to amounts but also as to people who are covered).

You should know the situation better than I, but I think it will put your thoughts into perspective if you will read this article.

It seems that any reserves which were initially established for the payment of benefits have long since been depleted and that benefits are now paid out of current Social Security taxes which are paid by and on behalf of active employees. In the early days of the program a ratio of beneficiaries to active workers was 1 to 150. It has now dwindled down to 1 to 3 -- an alarming state of affairs.

I can look at this problem objectively because within a few months I will be retiring and will be eligible for benefits under the Social Security Law. My great concern is for the future of the country and for the young families who must bear this staggering burden.

I urge you to exert your influence to stop the precipitous increases in benefits so that the young working families will have an opportunity to exist and to realize something from the taxes which they will pay over a lifetime.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature]

BRS:rh