

## US FORUM CONNECTION #97, JANUARY 2012

This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to each individual.

**The U. S. FORUM WEB SITE** is <http://deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/index.html>

The registration form for the March 2012 National Legislative Seminar in Washington, DC can be found at this site.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 100,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to [Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu](mailto:Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu). We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication

**At the Regional Conferences during the summer of 2011, an overwhelming number of our members expressed interest and concern about Social Security and Medicare both on the questionnaires filled out at the conferences and in their questions to the presenters. Due to the member interest, this issue of the U. S. Forum Connection will deal solely with Social Security and Medicare.**

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### **THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE (NCPSSM) RETIRESAFE**

#### **THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY & MEDICARE (NCPSSM)**

There is one organization which is totally dedicated to issues concerning Social Security and Medicare. This is the National Committee to Protect Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM) which has been in existence for about 30 years. NCPSSM presents some facts which are given below. NCPSSM emphasizes that Social Security and Medicare are not entitlements, but they are **earned benefits** which citizens have paid into for years through payroll taxes.

### FACTS

1. Social Security's trust fund currently takes in more money through the FICA tax and interest on the bonds held for Social Security than it pays out in benefits. Even in the current troubled economy, the total accumulated surplus is in the trillions of dollars and will continue to grow for the next dozen years.
2. Current projections show Social Security able to pay benefits for another 25 years.
3. Beyond 25 years, the actuaries project a relatively modest gap between taxes collected and benefits paid, but there are reasonable, solid, relatively modest adjustments that would ensure the viability of Social Security for many years to come.

\*The source for the above information is the National Committee to Protect Social Security and Medicare. For more information you can go on line to [www.ncpssm.org](http://www.ncpssm.org) or phone [1-800-966-1938](tel:1-800-966-1938).

## **RETIRESAFE**

A second organization which has concerned itself with Social Security is Retiresafe. This organization is currently pushing for a Constitutional Amendment to protect Social Security. This amendment would contain the following:

1. No Benefit Cuts
2. Guaranteed Annual Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA)
3. End of Trust Fund “raids” (For years Congress has been borrowing from the Social Security Trust Fund to fund other projects – mostly so-called pork barrel items.)
4. Pay Back Social Security (The Trust Fund is full of IOUs that have no real cash value and only represent a promise to pay. The proposed amendment calls for Congress to repay the more than \$2.56 trillion it has taken from the Social Security Trust Fund.)

\* The source for the above information is RetireSafe. Additional information about this organization and its proposals can be found at [www.retiresafe.org](http://www.retiresafe.org).

## **CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION**

**U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION** can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard [1-866-327-8670](tel:1-866-327-8670) (this is a toll free number). You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

[http://www.house.gov/](http://www.house.gov) for members of the House of Representatives [http://www.senate.gov/](http://www.senate.gov) for members of the U.S. Senate  
White House [1-202-456-1111](tel:1-202-456-1111)

**STATE GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION** can be obtained through <http://www.emailyourgovernor.com/> Information available at this site allows contact with governors, members of the state legislature, state supreme court, congressional delegation and state agencies such as the Education Department, Attorney General, Motor Vehicles Department and Voter Registration. **PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME OF THIS INFORMATION MAY BE OUT OF DATE**

**INFORMATION ON HOW YOUR CONGRESSMAN VOTED ON KEY BILLS** <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/111/bills/>  
**FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.**

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