

# NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

2 NEW COLA BILLS INTRODUCED TO GIVE  
Senior Citizens & Retirees Benefit Protections

- ▶ **FUTURE Social Security COLAs Calculated Using the Senior-Friendly CPI-E Formula**
- ▶ **INSTANT \$250 PAYMENT to Seniors if NO COLA IS DUE**



**TELL YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS:**

**PASS H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act" and  
PASS H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act"**

**– Sign the FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION! –**

Dear Senior American,

Virtually all economists agree: a **FAIR and ACCURATE Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)** would keep millions of Senior Citizens from falling below the poverty line. Seniors are rapidly losing ground because Congress **knowingly uses a broken formula** to calculate our COLA increases and all too often our COLAs have been **ZERO... OR NEXT TO NOTHING!**

For 10 years, Seniors Citizens have been short-changed as our COLAs have failed to keep up... and it is pushing us to the brink... more and more Senior Americans are needlessly slipping into poverty.

We haven't gotten enough of an annual boost to our Social Security income to keep up with inflation. Our COLAs for 2010, 2011, and 2016 were 0.0% -- 2017's COLA was 0.3% -- **and our 2020 COLA is just 1.6%... yet our true living costs have gone up by 5% to 8% EACH YEAR!**

That's why The Senior Citizen Association of America (TSCAA) is endorsing 2 emergency bills that have just been introduced in Congress **TO FIX THIS ATTACK ON OUR BENEFITS!**

Will you please sign and return to me the **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION** I have prepared for you demanding your Representative votes to pass **H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"** and also votes to pass **H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act?"**

When passed, these **FAIR COLA** bills will calculate our **future** Social Security COLAs using the more accurate and Senior-friendly Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (**CPI-E**). And, if there is a year when no COLA is due, Senior Citizens will get **an instant payment of \$250 to help keep Seniors from falling below the poverty line.**

I hope to collect 50,000 signatures within the next 10 days and to start pressuring Congress for action. Your signature on this **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION** is **VITAL** – I urge you to respond **RIGHT AWAY!** And when you do, will you include a gift to TSCAA of \$10, \$12, \$15, \$20, or more to help us reach out to more Senior Americans and Retirees who can join us in this fight?



**THE SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**  
Administrative Address: P.O. Box 96085, Washington, D.C. 20090-6085

(Over, please)

## H.R. 1553 The Fair COLA for Seniors Act

To SECTION 1. Short title.  
This Act may be cited as "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"

To provide for cost-of-living increases for certain Federal benefits programs based on increases in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly (CPI-E).

## H.R. 46 The Social Security Safety Dividend Act

To SECTION 1. Short title.  
This may be cited as "The Social Security Dividend Act."

To ensure that seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security and certain other Federal benefits receive a **\$250 payment** in the event that no cost-of-living adjustment is payable in a calendar year.

**IT IS OUTRAGEOUS** that Congress approves the spending of Billions of tax dollars for various pet projects, foreign aid, bailouts, and even handouts to illegal immigrants, but when it comes time to providing Senior Citizens with **FAIR and ACCURATE COLA** increases, they somehow forget the solemn promise they made to us years ago -- **to pay our benefits, IN FULL**.

Only Congress can change the law to properly calculate the **FULL AND FAIR** benefit amount we deserve. And their **INACTION** continues to push millions of vulnerable Senior Citizens below the poverty line. **THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE, IMMORAL, AND CRUEL!**

Our Social Security COLAs are intended to keep our benefits in lockstep with the true cost of living increases Seniors and Retirees realize every day. But, our COLAs have averaged **LESS THAN ONE PERCENT FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS!**

**In fact, for every \$100 Senior households spent since 2010, the same Senior household can only buy \$65 worth of goods today – this is a significant loss of purchasing power – and it makes Seniors vulnerable to higher prescription drug, health care, housing, and food costs.**

Today, millions of Seniors find themselves worrying that our income will remain woefully behind **UNLESS CONGRESS MAKES A LONG-OVERDUE CORRECTION.**

It is only a matter of time before Social Security “reform” [*which means cuts to our benefits*] is further acted on in the House and Senate. We have already heard of proposals to drastically cut Medicare and we all know that **\$25 Billion in Social Security cuts were included in the President’s 2020 budget!**

### **WE CANNOT TOLERATE ANOTHER HIT TO OUR INCOME!**

But finally Seniors and Retirees have a very good opportunity **to protect our future COLAs** with the introduction of H.R. 1553 “The FAIR COLA Act” and H.R. 46 “The Social Security Safety Dividend Act.” These bills are designed to give us peace of mind over what our annual COLA will be, especially in years when the economy is doing well and no COLA is due -- **Seniors would still get an increase!**

**My friend, H.R. 1553 and H.R. 46 are the Bills Senior Americans NEED PASSED INTO LAW!  
But I can’t do it without you - will you please take these actions now?**

First, **PLEASE**, sign your **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION** and return it immediately.

Second, **PLEASE**, make a gift to The Senior Citizen Association of America (TSCAA) to help us reach out to more Senior Americans and Retirees, like you, who can join us in this fight to pressure members of Congress to cosponsor and vote to pass H.R. 1553 and H.R. 46.

**Your support is urgently needed as we mount this campaign to PRESSURE the POLITICIANS, the MEDIA, the PRESIDENT and to ALERT MORE Seniors that these Bills are now before Congress and will be deliberated. Congress must pass them to GUARANTEE the Social Security COLAs we earned and were promised will be there for us NOW and in the future, IN FULL!**

I’m very concerned with the direction this Congress might take with what they call “*entitlement reform*” (to me that is *Washington-speak* for Social Security benefit cuts.)

For the last 6 months, radical changes to Social Security have been discussed such as raising the retirement age, delaying benefits to Retirees, and increasing taxes. **But the real problem is Congress**

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-- **Democrats and Republicans -- who are addicted to SPENDING, no matter how much it damages the Social Security Trust Funds, or how much it HURTS SENIORS and RETIREES!**

Seniors and Retirees must hold this Congress accountable for putting our Social Security COLAs, our peace of mind, and our security ahead of frivolous, pork-barrel spending.

**WE MUST FIGHT BACK:**

**That's why I'm leading a team to support passing  
H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"  
and H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act"**

**These Bills finally do the job that Congress has failed to do:  
PROTECT OUR FUTURE COLAS BY USING THE CPI-E  
AND PAYING SENIORS \$250 WHEN NO COLAs ARE DUE.**

I'm angry because Congress' spending spree has emptied the Trust Funds which is one of the reasons why the 2020 COLA was just 1.6% -- a \$22 per month increase. **THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!**

**\*\*\* FUTURE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT CUTS \*\*\***

No money in the Trust Fund. Only paper IOUs. And the largest generation of Seniors will soon be applying for Social Security... this is a disaster waiting to happen, thanks to Congress.

**This year, like last year, the Trust Fund will have to pay out more in benefits than it takes in with payroll taxes**, thus Capitol Hill will be under pressure to cut benefits, raise taxes, delay payments, or take benefits away from those who Congress thinks doesn't need them (means testing).

**BUT THERE IS NEW HOPE FOR SENIORS & RETIREES FROM  
H.R. 1553 "THE FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS ACT"**

**[Passing H.R.1553 GUARANTEES future COLAs are calculated using the CPI-E]**

**H.R. 46 "THE SOCIAL SECURITY SAFETY DIVIDEND ACT"**

**[Pays each Social Security Recipient \$250 in years where a COLA is not due]**

The problem isn't Senior Americans and Retirees... or even the size of our benefits or the amount of our cost of living adjustments. The real problem is Congress, who routinely spends OUR Social Security benefits instead of locking them away in the Trust Fund!

**PLEASE NOTE: AS OF TODAY, CONGRESS CAN CUT OR ELIMINATE OUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS AT ANY TIME AND FOR ANY REASON...**

Unfortunately, many Seniors don't know that the Supreme Court has ruled our Social Security benefits are, **legally**, the same as **welfare**. No matter how much Seniors need and deserve the benefits we earned and were promised, **we have NO LEGAL GUARANTEE to them.**

Of course, the Politicians know how to game the system. They have been chipping away at our benefits for years. **THIS MUST STOP!** That's why Seniors urgently need protections for our future Social Security COLAs – that's why this new legislation is so important, here's what it does:

*(Over, please)*

It calculates our **future** Social Security COLAs using the more accurate Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E). The CPI-E is an inflation index which is much more accurate and very Senior friendly! **And in case there is no COLA due, Seniors would still get a \$250 payment.**

I hope you can sense how **URGENT** it is for TSCAA to get working on behalf of Seniors and Retirees to pressure Congress to pass H.R. 1553 and H.R. 46!

My friend, will you **PLEASE ACT TODAY** and sign and return your **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION** which is registered in your name and addressed to your Representative?

**Please know that Senior Citizens are a potent force when we raise our voices together.** And Senior Americans have an historic opportunity to **protect our Social Security COLAs** once we get H.R. 1553 and H.R. 46 signed into law. Here's how you can help:

**FIRST, sign your FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION.** It urges your Representative to co-sponsor, bring to the floor, and vote to pass both *H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"* and *H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act"*

**SECOND, please make an URGENT contribution of \$10, \$12, \$15, \$20, or more** to TSCAA to help fund our campaign so we can reach out to more Seniors and Retirees who will join us.

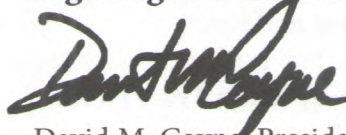
**HERE'S WHAT YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL HELP ME DO:**

>> Collect 50,000 signatures on the **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION** and deliver them to Capitol Hill, **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

>> Contact hundreds of thousands of concerned Social Security recipients so they have an opportunity to help protect our future COLAs by having the correct CPI-E calculation used or to receive a \$250 payment in years when COLAs are not due.

May I count on you to include a contribution of \$10, \$12, \$15, \$20, or more when you return your signed **FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION**? Without the financial support of Senior Americans like you, this National Campaign will not be possible. We depend on you.

**Fighting to Pass a FAIR COLA for Seniors!**



David M. Coyne, President

**P.S. Please sign and return to me the enclosed FAIR COLA FOR SENIORS PETITION. I hope to collect 50,000 signatures within the next 10 days. It is VITAL we have enough signatures and your contribution to help us win this fight and to pressure your Representative into co-sponsoring, bringing to the floor, and voting to pass both H.R. 1553 and H.R. 46. I cannot do it without you!**

Senior Citizens and Retirees will pay a heavy price if the big spenders in D.C. keep pushing Social Security to the brink. All of the talk right now is "benefit reductions." Let's fight back! Help me pressure Washington into action. **Thank you for joining the Fair COLA fight!**

# Fair COLA for Seniors Petition & Authorization



THE SENIOR CITIZEN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
Administrative Address: PO Box 96085, Washington, DC 20085

PASS H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"  
PASS H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act"

H.R. 1553

The Fair COLA for Seniors Act

To SECTION 1. Short title.  
This Act may be cited as "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"

To provide for cost-of-living increases for certain Federal benefits programs based on increases in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly (CPI-E).

H.R. 46

The Social Security Safety Dividend Act

To SECTION 1. Short title.  
This may be cited as "The Social Security Dividend Act."

To ensure that seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security and certain other Federal benefits receive a \$250 payment in the event that no cost-of-living adjustment is payable in a calendar year.

Registration No.:  
Response Requested by: February 16, 2020  
Louisiana Voter; Congressional District # 5  
Member of Congress: Representative Ralph Abraham

**INSTRUCTIONS:** [1.] Sign the Fair COLA for Seniors Petition and **RUSH IT BACK TO ME IMMEDIATELY.**

I hope to collect 50,000 signatures in the next 10 days. [2.] Help our National Campaign by making an URGENT CONTRIBUTION. *Thank you!*

## Fair COLA for Seniors Petition

To: U.S. Representative Ralph Abraham

*Whereas*, for every \$100 Senior households spent in 2010 - that same Senior household can only buy \$65 worth of goods today! This is a significant loss of purchasing power making Seniors vulnerable to higher prescription drug, health care, housing, energy, and food costs; and,

*Whereas*, Seniors are falling behind because Congress **knowingly uses a broken formula** to calculate our annual COLA increases and all too often our COLAs have been **ZERO... OR NEXT TO NOTHING**; and,

*Whereas*, Seniors are not getting enough of a yearly boost to our Social Security income to keep up with our everyday living costs. The Social Security COLAs for 2010, 2011, and 2016 were **ZERO**. 2017's adjustment was a mere 0.3% and our 2020 COLA was just 1.6%, yet our true living costs go up by 5% to 8% EACH YEAR!

*Whereas*, our COLAs are intended to keep benefits in lockstep with the true cost of living expenses Seniors experience every day. **But, our COLAs have averaged LESS THAN ONE PERCENT for the last 10 years!**

*Therefore, Be It Resolved*, I urge YOU to co-sponsor, bring to the floor, and vote to pass **H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act"** and **H.R. 46 "The Social Security Safety Dividend Act."** These Bills will calculate our future Social Security COLAs using the more accurate and Senior-friendly Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E). And, if there is a year where no COLA is due, Senior Citizens will get an instant payment of \$250. A **FAIR and ACCURATE Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)** will help to keep millions of Senior Citizens from falling below the poverty line, I urge you to vote to pass these Bills now.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Fair COLA for Seniors Authorization Form

YES, I have signed the petition and I authorize TSCAA to pressure Representative Ralph Abraham to co-sponsor, bring to the floor, and vote to pass H.R. 1553 "The Fair COLA for Seniors Act" and H.R. 46 "the Social Security Safety Dividend Act" to use the CPI-E to calculate my future Social Security COLAs or pay me \$250 in years where COLAs are not due.

YES, I am enclosing my generous contribution of:

\$10  \$12\*  \$15

\$20  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No.:  
Response Requested by:  
Louisiana Voter; Congressional District # 5  
Member of Congress: Representative Ralph Abraham

Your signed petition and contribution of \$12\* will help me keep the pressure on Congress to act. Please return your signed Petition and gift to TSCAA today. **Thank you!**

Please make your check payable to TSCAA, or, if you'd like to donate by credit card, see reverse side of this form. Because TSCAA lobbies for seniors rights, IRS regulations prohibit your contribution from being tax-deductible.

# H. R. 1553

To provide for cost-of-living increases for certain Federal benefits programs based on increases in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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### A BILL

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Fair COLA for Seniors Act".

#### SEC. 2. COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES FOR CERTAIN FEDERAL BENEFITS PROGRAMS BASED ON INCREASES IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THE ELDERLY.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever there is an increase in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the dollar amounts in effect for the payment of the following benefits, as such amounts were in effect immediately before the increase in the Consumer Price Index for the elderly, shall be increased by the same percentage as such price index was increased: [For full text of H.R.1553, go to <http://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1553/text>]

# H. R. 46

To ensure that seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities who receive Social Security and certain other Federal benefits receive a \$250 payment in the event that no cost-of-living adjustment is payable in a calendar year.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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### A BILL

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Social Security Safety Dividend Act."

#### SEC. 2. PAYMENT IN LIEU OF A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO RECIPIENTS OF SOCIAL SECURITY, SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME, RAILROAD RETIREMENT BENEFITS, AND VETERANS DISABILITY COMPENSATION OR PENSION BENEFITS.

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall disburse, out of any funds in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, a cash payment equal to \$250 for each non-COLA year of a program providing benefit payments described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subparagraph (C) or in subparagraph (D) to each individual who, for any month during such year, is entitled to such benefit payment. [For full text of H.R.146, go to <http://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/46/text>]

### DONATE BY CREDIT CARD

Please fill out the section below if you'd like to donate by credit card.

Please charge my:  VISA  DISCOVER  AMERICAN EXPRESS  MASTERCARD

NAME ON CARD

AMOUNT

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXP. DATE

(MONTH/YEAR)

3-DIGIT CODE

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OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 973-504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT [www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/charity/chardir.htm](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/charity/chardir.htm). REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. New York: Office of the Attorney General, Department of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271 North Carolina: Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the State Solicitation Licensing Branch Section at 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State. Pennsylvania: The official registration and financial information of TSCAA may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Virginia: State of Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. Washington: Charities Division, Office of the Secretary of State, State of Washington, Olympia, WA 98504-0422, 1-800-332-4483. West Virginia: Residents may obtain a summary from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305 Registration with any of these states does not imply endorsement. If you would like information on how to stop receiving unwanted mail, please write to Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association PO BOX 643 Carmel, NY 10512, or go to the website at <http://www.dmchoice.org>