



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

July 23, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Democratic Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy:

The undersigned cochairs of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Social Security Task Force write in response to proposals to include a payroll tax cut in the next COVID-19 relief package that would reduce contributions to the Social Security Trust Funds. The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) is the largest coalition of national organizations working together to advocate for federal public policy that ensures the self-determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with disabilities in all aspects of society.

Our Social Security system is a foundation of economic security for workers and their families in the event of a worker's retirement, disability, or death. Social Security represents a promise to U.S. workers that has been built up and honored for over 80 years. That promise should not be broken, and Social Security benefits should not be limited or cut. This includes cuts via a payroll tax cut that would cut contributions to the Social Security Trust Funds. These contributions fund the Social Security system and are a fundamental part of ensuring that the system remains solvent in the long term.

We agree that Congress must act to respond to the public health and financial crisis we face, but cutting payroll contributions is not the solution. It does nothing for the millions of people who have lost their jobs. It does little to help low-wage essential workers, who pay a proportionate amount of payroll contributions to their low-wages and will receive very little. For example, a worker making \$8 an hour for 25 hours a week would get less than an extra \$16 per week. In addition, payroll tax cuts are spread out, delayed, and do not reach workers as quickly as the direct stimulus payments such as the Economic Impact Payments (EIPs) authorized by the

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. Using our prior example, it would take over 78 weeks (or until January 2022) for a payroll tax cut to provide the equivalent of another \$1200 EIP.

We urge Congress to not include a payroll tax cut in the next COVID-19 relief package.

Sincerely,

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