

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 14, 2025

The Honorable Frank Bisignano
Commissioner
Social Security Administration
6401 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21235

Commissioner Bisignano:

We write in outrage over the Social Security Administration (SSA) using its resources to spread political propaganda and false information. On July 3, SSA issued a [press release](#) and a mass email falsely praising the benefits of the Republican reconciliation bill—which in reality will leave millions of Americans without health care or food so that big corporations and the ultrawealthy get huge tax breaks—and falsely announcing that Social Security benefits are no longer subject to taxes. We are appalled that the agency distributed misleading and blatantly inaccurate information regarding tax changes affecting older Americans, transforming the agency into a partisan megaphone for Donald Trump while sowing confusion and distrust in SSA among Americans.

Shortly after the House passed the legislation, SSA issued a [press release](#)—posted on the agency’s website and emailed to all “my Social Security” account users—stating that the bill “eliminates federal income taxes on Social Security benefits for most beneficiaries” *and* provides some older Americans with an additional income tax deduction. **This is wholly inaccurate.** The Republican reconciliation bill does not amend, reduce, or eliminate the federal taxation of Social Security benefits. While the bill does provide a *temporary* income tax deduction for some older Americans, [only about 46 percent](#) of older adults would benefit from this deduction. The SSA press release claimed the bill would eliminate taxes on Social Security for 90 percent of beneficiaries, but the truth is that [about half](#) of recipients will owe some amount of income tax on their benefits.

Furthermore, the bill does nothing to change the tax filing requirements for Social Security recipients. An official press release claiming that Social Security benefits are not subject to tax creates confusion that could cause Social Security recipients to misunderstand their tax obligations. Your July 7 effort to correct the record—which retains the misleading language about “eliminat[ing] federal income taxes on Social Security benefits”—is hidden on a days-old press release on Social Security’s website. Moreover, you did not send this “correction” to the millions of “my Social Security” account users you mass emailed this incorrect and misleading information.

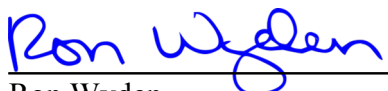
SSA has worked hard over years to encourage individuals to sign up for “my Social Security” accounts, which allow users to access online services and provide valuable information about their Social Security benefits, all while reducing pressures on Social Security field offices and teleservice centers. You have effectively used information provided by those signing up for these

services to create a political mailing list of over millions of Americans. This is not only wholly inappropriate but jeopardizes the integrity of “my Social Security” accounts if the information provided to users is clearly politically motivated.

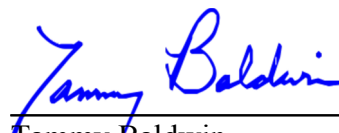
Having only been Commissioner for two months, it is disappointing that you devoted one of your first public statements to peddling inaccurate information to appease Donald Trump. As Commissioner, you know Social Security plays a critical role in the lives of millions of Americans. The decision on when to begin claiming Social Security is an incredibly personal decision that depends on the individual’s unique financial, medical, and family circumstances. To make that decision, individuals must have clear and accurate information about Social Security, *including the tax treatment of benefits*. Providing confusing or inaccurate information may lead Americans to make benefit claiming decisions against their best interest or mistakenly fail to pay taxes owed. Moreover, pushing blatantly partisan statements breeds distrust in the agency, which may raise doubt about the truthfulness of future statements.

During your confirmation process, you [pledged](#) to the Finance Committee and to the American public that you would run SSA “in an independent and nonpartisan manner.” You have failed in this instance. Rather than focusing on improving customer service, you are using your position as Commissioner to stroke Donald Trump’s ego and peddle lies on his behalf. We urge you to retract SSA’s July 3 statement and issue a correction—on SSA’s website and via email for “my Social Security” account users—clarifying the federal tax treatment of Social Security benefits.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Finance



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



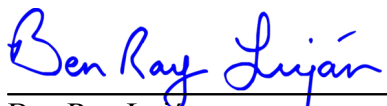
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



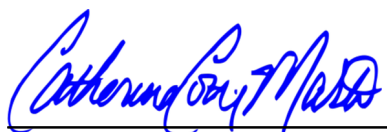
Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator