

MARK BEGICH
ALASKA

SUITE SH-825
HART BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-3004

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

RECEIVED
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May 4, 2009

Mr. Robert J. Doll
3310 Arctic Boulevard, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99503-4576

Dear Mr. Doll:

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Social Security Fairness Act. I agree it is unfair to penalize retired teachers and other public employees by taking away earned benefits, which is why I strongly support this bill.

This legislation will eliminate both the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) that unfairly hurt retirees. Repealing the WEP will allow retired teachers and other public employees to receive the Social Security benefits they have earned from other employment. The bill will also allow spouses to collect the benefits of a deceased spouse by repealing the GPO.

During these times of economic recession we have to ensure Alaska's retirees receive the benefits they deserve and I am proud to cosponsor this legislation to fix the unfair aspects of the current system.

Thank you for your opinion on this vital issue. Please feel free to contact me again in the future if I can assist you on any matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Begich
United States Senator

MPB/cl