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FAIRNESS ACT TO RECEIVE SOCIAL SECURITY BY: SCOTT A. O'MARA

The Social Security Fairness Act H.R. 82 passed the House of Representatives and the Senate. The Bill H.R. 82 was signed by President Joe Biden and became the law on January 5, 2025.

The Bill H.R. 82 repeals sections of the law that reduce Social Security Benefits for workers, potential workers, and their families if there was earned benefits or entitled benefits under a City, County or State Retirement System.

H.R. 82 broke down a barrier through legislation that was passed by the Government called Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) program. This was based upon many groups of employees that received, or had entitlement to receive, social security protection which was blocked off.

The WEP and GPO rules cease to be a factor in reduction of benefits that are payable on December 31, 2023 because of H.R. 82. The removal of this stone wall will allow entitlement to benefits to many workers and enhance their retirement by allowing full Social Security Benefits without being lowered by retirement benefits that they receive from the City, County or State Retirement Systems.

The Legislation impacts the benefits of many public sector employees. The Bill H.R. 82 provides many public employees access to their full security benefits, and removes the reduction of benefits because of retirement provisions and payments under the City, County or State Systems. The segment of governed employees' (City, County or State), are those that receive a pension based upon work, and are not covered by Social Security. There are several websites that can provide direction as to how to receive entitlement; one is www.ssa.gov/apply and another is www.secure.ssa.gov/INCON/main.jsp. There is an 800 number that can give you information as to potential entitlement as follows; 1(800) 772-1213.

The passage of H.R. 82 creates an economic base of security for many groups including fire, police, teachers and many other groups.



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NOTICE: Making a false or fraudulent Workers' Compensation claim is a felony subject to up to 5 years in prison or a fine of up to \$50,000 or double the value of the fraud, whichever is greater, or by both imprisonment and fine.

