



Here They Come



Sisters and Brothers,

As many of you may already know, Congress, fully inspired by the Musk-run DOGE, has trained its Union busting eyes on government employees including the hard working craft employees of the United States Postal Service. After all, they have to find a way to fund the expected continuing tax cuts for the millionaires and billionaires they serve. The very wealthiest and the corporate elitists will enjoy another tax break on the backs of working folks just trying to put a roof over their heads and food on the table. I have to say, it doesn't get much more disgusting than this. As recently reported across many new outlets, Congress intends to push through legislation that will make mail handlers along with all other postal and federal workers pay more, much more, into their annuity account and get less when they retire. As reported in *Government Executive* in an April 28th report

“The House Oversight and Reform Committee will meet Wednesday to consider the panel’s portion of the GOP’s budget reconciliation package to extend and expand tax cuts for the ultrawealthy, first implemented during President Trump’s first term.

Atop the panel’s laundry list of benefit cuts would involve the four-year phase-in of the 2013 Federal Employees Retirement System employee contribution hikes across government. When first enacted more than a decade ago, the increase of FERS employee contributions to 4.4% of basic pay did not apply to federal workers hired before December 2013, and those hired during 2013 contribute 3.1% toward their FERS annuity.”

Let that injustice sink in for a minute cause they ain't done. New hires will get even more special treatment so that the very rich get even richer. The plan for new hires as explained by *Government Executive's* Erich Wagner is

“Coupled with the contribution rate increase for existing federal workers is a provision that would affect new hires into government. Although pitched as a chance to receive “higher take-home pay,” the proposal would institute a 5 percentage-point hike in employees’ FERS contribution to 9.4% of basic pay, unless the new employee elects to serve on an at-will basis, forgoing their civil service protections.”

According to the article’s author, these changes alone would “save” over \$32 billion. Yes Brothers and Sisters, this “savings” is coming out of your pockets and right into the pockets of the already ultra rich. But wait, there’s more. As reported, they also want to make adjustments to the Social Security Supplement. The article reads in part,

“The panel also proposed eliminating the FERS supplement for federal workers who retire before Social Security kicks in at age 62...”

For those who have heard my pitch to contribute to the Mail Handler Political Action Committee over these many years know that we have said over and over again that our elected representatives can take things away from us with a stroke of the pen and the importance of engaging those allegedly working for us on Capitol Hill through political action. Well, *Here They Come* with that pen.

Ok, so we’ve gone over the fact that they want us to contribute more to our retirement account and if we retire before turning 62 they don’t want to give us the Social Security Supplement. So we’re giving more while working which means we’ll get more when we retire, right? You already know the answer. As reported by Mr. Wagner the bill

“...proposes shifting the calculation for federal retirees’ annuity payments from the average of their highest three years of salary to a new formula averaging the highest five years of salary.”

This has the effect of lowering your annuity upon retirement, if you can ever afford to retire.

All of these “tweaks” to our retirement accounts are designed to do one thing and one thing only and that is to make the rich richer. They take away what we have earned and hand it over to those who already have too much to spend. This shit, Brothers and Sisters, cannot stand.

In Solidarity,
John Gibson

What to Do

The first thing we all need to do is to raise holy hell with those who were elected to “represent” us. Let them know that you, their constituent, don't like this retirement busting stunt and just like they were elected they can be un-elected. Scan the LETTER QR Code and that will take you to the National Union’s Legislative link on this very subject and in a few short minutes YOUR letter to YOUR congressional rep will be sent. But don't stop there Sisters and Brothers put a call in to their offices too. Let them know that you exist and are paying attention to what they are doing to protect your job and you hard earned retire-

ment benefits. Just scan the RED Code and in a few short clicks they'll know how you feel. There is no time to waste.



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