

From: **Annette Tchelka** <atchelka@hotmail.com>

Subject: Support Retirement for All!

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Everyone deserves a secure retirement.

- 53% of American workers 30 and older are "at risk" to have insufficient assets for retirement when they reach the age of 65.
- Many corporations, even those that are very profitable, are no longer offering sponsored retirement plans.
- Employers that do offer plans are contributing less and less to retirement savings.
- Stagnant wages mean workers are less and less able to afford the high contribution limits and expensive fees of private retirement savings plans.
- Without a retirement savings account, many workers will be left with only Social Security to survive on.
- That is why we need a public, state-run retirement savings plan every single worker can access.
- By pooling resources into a single trust fund, workers in the state will benefit from a higher return on their investment.
- A public retirement savings plan would not incur the high fees Wall Street charges to manage retirement funds.
- Everyone should be able to afford to retire with dignity.

As a senior citizen living on Social Security I can tell you that the COLAs are too little, usually being eaten up by just increases in the utility bills. Further the cost of heating oil is outrageous and eligibility requirements have been tightened forcing seniors to use up what little savings we have because of price gouging by the oil companies--they have had a field day with this bitter cold winter at the clear expense of the elderly.

We need to tax the rich, increase taxes on corporations and make sure they pay the taxes they are supposed to instead of off-shoring them. We also need to reinstate Glass Steagall and reregulate, not deregulate corporations and Wall Street to keep our economy sound. In addition, we should end NAFTA and all NAFTA-style agreements as they have done nothing for the people of the United States. TAFTA and the TPP are nothing but insane corporate giveaways designed to thwart Dodd Frank, and our labor and environmental laws. I am also completely opposed to any investor state tribunal run by, for and on behalf of corporations.

Annette Tchelka

6516  
203-435-7693