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The net amounts we retirees receive as social security payments have already been taxed, not once (by the federal government), but a second time (also by the federal government on amounts that would have been paid as compensation but for the government taxing companies first), and a third time by state/local governments (which don't allow us a deduction for amounts taxed by the federal government), then a fourth time by the federal government, that taxes us on 85% of those payments actually received, and finally again by state and local governments that follow federal practice (Connecticut appears to provide some relief, but taxes the remainder yet again). If amounts paid to us were pure entitlements, i.e., we had never contributed our own money to any "lock box" fund, and the money constituted pure government largesse, one could conclude that, as income, it was taxable. But after so many layers of tax extracted over an entire lifetime from our wages, please, please rethink the wisdom and justice of current practice. Many thanks.