

RENEWING AMERICA'S PROMISE: A NEW ERA OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Social Security Administration 2010 Budget

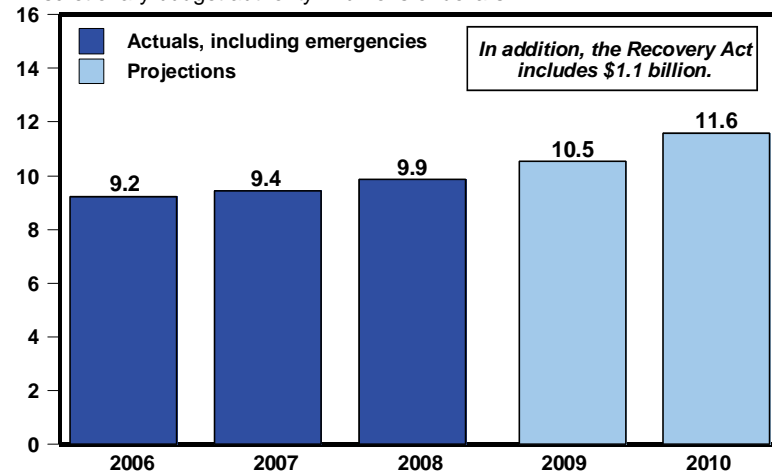
“A secure retirement is being threatened today. Part of the reason is rising costs. I don't have to tell you about this. You feel the pinch every time you fill up a tank of gas because the price at the pump has tripled over the past several years. You feel it every time you go to the pharmacy and find that you're paying more for the same drugs than you were this time last year...Coming together to meet this challenge won't be easy. It won't happen overnight. It will take restoring a sense of shared purpose in Washington and across this country.”

-- President Barack Obama

Social Security is indispensable to workers, the disabled, seniors, and survivors, and is one of the most important and most successful programs that our country has ever established. Social Security can pay full benefits until 2041. The President is committed to ensuring that Social Security is solvent and viable for the American people, now and in the future. The President's Budget provides \$11.6 billion for the Social Security Administration. This includes a 10 percent funding increase to target crucial workloads and process a rising number of claims for disability and retirement benefits, as well as a significant increase in efforts to promote program integrity. The Budget also restructures the federal wage reporting process to increase the frequency with which wages are reported to the SSA.

Social Security Administration

Discretionary budget authority in billions of dollars



Note: Amounts include funding from the Medicare trust funds for administrative expenses incurred by SSA.

The Social Security Administration Budget Highlights

PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Ensures that Social Security is solvent and viable. Social Security is indispensable to workers, the disabled, seniors, and survivors, and is one of the most important and most successful programs that our country has ever established. Social Security can pay full benefits until 2041. The President is committed to ensuring that Social Security is solvent and viable for the American people, now and in the future. He is strongly opposed to privatizing Social Security and looks forward to working in a bipartisan way to preserve it for future generations.

INCREASED FUNDS TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS

Enhances core operations. The budget proposes \$11.6 billion for SSA, an increase of \$1.1 billion, or 10 percent, above the 2009 enacted level of \$10.5 billion. This amount includes resources to ensure increased staffing in 2010 and will allow SSA to increase the level of work processed in key service delivery areas to the American public, such as processing initial retirement and disability claims, and disability appeals. In addition, this amount includes resources to enable SSA to more effectively and efficiently verify hundreds of millions of Social Security Numbers and issue about 18 million Social Security cards.

PROGRAM INTEGRITY

Significantly increases program integrity efforts. The President's 2010 Budget provides \$759 million for SSA program integrity that will reverse a decline in these activities. SSA's program integrity efforts will be part of a strong framework for making sure government is spending tax dollars efficiently and that benefits are paid only to those beneficiaries who are eligible and are paid in the correct amounts. Continuing Disability Reviews ensure that DI and SSI recipients continue to meet the medical criteria. SSI redeterminations ensure that SSI recipients continue to meet the non-medical factors of eligibility.

FEDERAL WAGE REPORTING

Restructures the Federal wage reporting process. The President's 2010 Budget proposes to restructure the Federal wage reporting process to increase the frequency with which wages are reported to SSA. Increasing the timeliness of wage reporting would enhance tax administration, improve program integrity for a range of programs, and facilitate implementation of automatic workplace pensions. The Administration will work with the States so that the overall reporting burden on employers is not increased.