

## News Release

# Social Security: Endangered on its 76th Birthday

August 15, 2011



NANCY ALTMAN, njalt at aol.com

Altman is co-chair of the [Strengthen Social Security Campaign](#), a coalition of over 300 national and state organizations representing more than 50 million Americans and author of the book

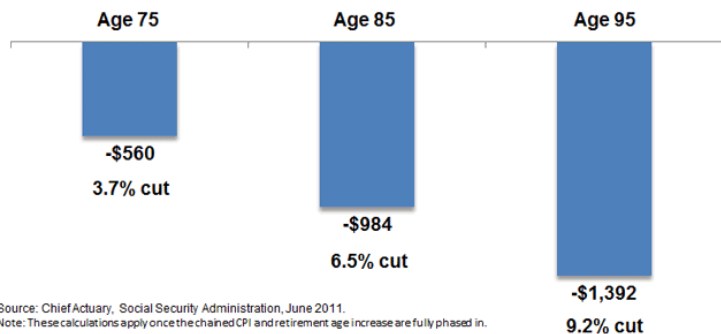
“The Battle for Social Security: From FDR’s Vision to Bush’s Gamble.” She said today: “Social Security has transformed the nation, insuring American workers and their families against the loss of wages in the event of disability, death, and old age. Prior to Social Security, growing old was something to fear, because it generally meant destitution and loss of independence. But not anymore, thanks to Social Security.

“Social Security, which works so well, is under attack today by elites who believe it should be cut or even privatized. The best way to celebrate Social Security’s birthday this August 14th is to write your elected representatives, the president, and your local newspaper, explaining why this vital program is more necessary than ever and should not be cut.”

STACY SANDERS, ssanders at wowonline.org

Sanders is the director of the [Elder Economic Security Initiative](#), a branch of [Wider Opportunities for Women](#). She said today: “Although Social Security played no role in creating our nation’s debt, benefit cuts are often marketed as a solution to the nation’s fiscal woes. Social

Annual Cut in Social Security Benefits If Chained CPI Takes Effect in 2012  
(For Medium Earner Retiring at Age 65, in wage-indexed 2011 dollars)



Security is the bedrock of economic security for millions of older Americans, persons with disability and families.

“For the beneficiary living solely or primarily on average benefits alone — just over \$12,500 for a single older women and \$15,700 for an older man — cuts would have devastating consequences for economic security. The solvency of Social Security and the values of its benefits can be strengthened through balanced reform. On Social Security’s 76th birthday, Congress and the Administration should protect the promise of Social Security and take benefits cuts off the table in the ongoing deficit debate.”

**Millionaires: “Read Our Lips, Raise Our Taxes”**

**British Austerity and Riots**

**Social Security: Endangered on its 76th Birthday**

**Mitt Romney’s America: “Corporations are People”**

**Employment Gap Grows Between Women and Men**

**Wisconsin Recall Elections**

**Senator Kerry Willing “to Cut Social Security and Medicare”**

**Libya and Syria: Humanitarian War is a “Monstrous Illusion”**

**A Simple Deficit Fix**

**Verizon Strike**

**Wall Street and Washington Downgrade America**

**Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the Age of**

**National Office**

65 Ninth Street, Suite 3  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Voice 415-552-53

Fax 415-552-678;  
institute[at]igc.org

**Washington Office (journalist contact)**

915 National Press Building  
Washington DC 20045

Voice 202-347-0020

Fax 202-347-0290

dcinstitute[at]igc.org