

RETIREE NOTES

Retirement security at risk

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP'S federal budget proposal includes serious threats to retirement security.

Trump would end Medicare as we know it, turning the program into a voucher system. In addition to cutting Medicare by \$487 billion and hiking participant premiums by 25 percent, the budget ends Medicare's guaranteed benefits. This means that beneficiaries would receive vouchers to purchase insurance, but those vouchers would not be sufficient to cover premiums, deductibles or co-pays. Once the voucher is spent, seniors will have to pay 100 percent of their medical costs until the next voucher is distributed.

Trump's budget also guts Medicaid, which provides health insurance for the elderly, the poor and people with disabilities, making \$1 trillion in cuts.

Social Security is slashed by \$5.4 billion and any disabled individual who attempts to work part-time in order to supplement their income is penalized.

The budget also guts non-defense discretionary spending by \$893 billion, cutting programs vital to seniors such as Meals on Wheels, job training, senior centers and caregiver support.

One thing Trump's budget doesn't do is close corporate tax loopholes or require the wealthy to pay their fair share in taxes.

In early September, federal lawmakers passed a continuing resolution that would keep the government open until December. The U.S. House of Representatives passed their own spending package with cuts that aren't quite as steep as the president's proposals, but would still cause irreparable harm to retirees.

AFSCME says the budget shouldn't be balanced on the backs of retirees and working families.

Call your legislators. Tell them to do the right thing and kill this heartless budget.

Celebrating Labor Day

RETIREES TOOK TO THE street this Labor Day to walk for labor rights across the state. AFSCME retirees honored the social and economic achievements of American workers and the tradition of hard work by attending Labor Day celebrations and parades.

"Labor Day is about the future," said AFSCME Retirees Sub-Chapter 59 President Dorothy Asbury, who has walked in the Alton Labor Day Parade for 15 years. "We need to reflect on our past while working toward a strong future. That's why I walk."

Other steadfast parade walkers include members of AFSCME Retirees Sub-Chapter 86, who decorate a truck every year for the Springfield Labor



AFSCME Retirees Sub-Chapter 59 President Dorothy Asbury on Labor Day.

Day Parade.

"Labor Day honors the people who fought and earned the workplace rights we have today," Sub-Chapter President Don Todd said. "Labor activists dedicated their entire lives to protect their brothers and sisters in the workplace, and I am honored to honor them this day."

If you are interested in getting active with AFSCME retirees, visit afscme31.org/retirees for information on sub-chapter meetings in your area.



Members of AFSCME Retirees Sub-Chapter 93 meet in Marion.

Retiree Convention in Springfield

THE 16TH BIENNIAL AFSCME Illinois Retirees Chapter 31 Convention is fast approaching and members from across the state are gearing up for the meeting. This year, retirees will gather and share ideas

from October 17 through 19 in Springfield.

Retirees will elect their Chapter 31 Executive Board and attend informative workshops about member involvement, effective activism and more. Participants will also listen to motivating speakers who will discuss the future of labor and how AFSCME plans to fight for retirement secu-

rity.

"It always amazes me how many people from all over the state come for our convention," John Tilden, Sub-Chapter 66 president, said. "There are so many people from so many different backgrounds, and they are all extremely enthusiastic about the labor movement and AFSCME. Convention is a huge motivator." 



Retiring Soon?

Don't Just Sit Back...

Join AFSCME Chapter 31 Retirees!

You worked hard to earn a decent retirement—but the fight for retirement security isn't over. Pensions, Medicare, Social Security—they're all under attack by the wealthy and powerful.

Retirees Chapter 31 is helping to lead the battle to protect retirement security. Be part of that fight! Dues are just \$2.10 per month and will be deducted directly from your pension check.

Visit afscme31.org/retirees/join for more information.