



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Statement of Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities
Social Security Task Force Co-Chairs
Regarding Social Security Proposals in the Administration's FY 2015 Budget**

Washington, DC -- The Co-Chairs of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Social Security Task Force today issued the following statement in response to the release of the Administration's Fiscal Year 2015 budget proposal:

“While we applaud the President for listening to the American people and removing the ‘chained’ Consumer Price Index, which would have cut Social Security benefits for millions of Americans, from his FY 2015 proposed budget, we are disappointed that another Social Security cut – for workers with disabilities, who concurrently receive Unemployment Insurance – remains in the President’s proposed budget.

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities strongly opposes any cuts to Social Security benefits.

It is the long-standing position of the Social Security Administration and the courts that concurrent receipt of Social Security Disability Insurance and Unemployment Insurance is consistent and appropriate when eligibility requirements for both programs are met. Individuals may receive concurrent benefits if they have significant disabilities that make them eligible for Social Security, and have attempted to return to work, but have lost their job through no fault of their own. These benefits can be a lifeline to workers with disabilities and their families. Any reduction in concurrent benefits would single out workers with disabilities who receive Social Security for differential treatment under the Unemployment Insurance program, create disincentives for work, and harm the economic security of Social Security disability beneficiaries and their families.

A letter (http://c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD_Letter-DI-UI-01-11-14.pdf) sent during January’s Senate debate over extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation expressed strong opposition to reducing or eliminating concurrent Social Security disability and Unemployment Insurance benefits as a partial pay-for. We will continue to urge President Obama and the U.S. Congress to reject this harmful cut to Social Security.”

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