

Rep. Randy Feenstra's Testimony
House Budget Committee Member Day Hearing
December 3rd, 2025 – Cannon 210

Chairman Arrington and Ranking Member Boyle,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today on one of my top priorities: ensuring Congress behaves as a good steward of taxpayer dollars by ensuring transparency when we discuss the future of Social Security. For years, I've raised a major concern with CBO leadership regarding how the CBO's Ten-Year Economic Outlook treats Social Security.

The Social Security's Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund (O.A.S.I.) is projected to be insolvent in roughly eight years, well within the ten-year window. But, the Economic Outlook continues to present a picture in which full scheduled benefits are paid. This is a major report cited by Members of both sides, yet it masks a looming fiscal cliff for tens of millions of retirees.

As the Social Security Trustees' and CBO's own long-term Social Security reports already show, once insolvency hits, payable benefits drop sharply.

This is clearly visible in the charts included in those reports, where scheduled and payable benefits divert dramatically as revenues fall. However, this is nowhere to be found in the CBO's Ten-Year Economic Outlook, one of the most widely read and cited publications for the public and policymakers.

That's why I introduced the Save Our Seniors (SOS) Act: to enact a simple, commonsense reform.

This legislation would require CBO to include a simple graph in its Ten-Year Outlook showing both scheduled and payable Social Security benefits, and how insolvency would affect payable benefits.

The Economic Policy Innovation Center notes that CBO's baseline "does not actually reflect current law, providing a misleading picture of what would happen when the Social Security Trust Fund is depleted within the next decade"

And they've called my SOS Act a "commonsense proposal to require more transparency".

Additionally, the bill was named a "No-Brainer" for Congress to advance and pass by the National Taxpayers Union last year.

For seniors who rely on Social Security, this is a crucial time. They deserve their earned benefits. They don't need inaccurate projections. The Save Our Seniors Act provides a simple chart that communicates the need for action to keep Social Security solvent.

I look forward to working with the Committee to advance this commonsense legislation. Thank you for giving me this time to speak.