

February 14, 2025

The Honorable Paul Gosar 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Arizona 2057 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar,

On behalf of AMAC Action – the advocacy affiliate of AMAC with over 2 million members nationwide, we are pleased to express our strong support for HR 34, the Land and Social Security Optimization (LASSO) Act. For far too long, Social Security's solvency has been under threat, causing uncertainty for seniors who rely on the benefits they earned over a lifetime of hard work.

The LASSO Act takes a bold and innovative approach to strengthening the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund by dedicating 10 percent of the revenue generated from public lands to the fund. This bill will not only reinforce the OASI Trust Fund and help protect benefits for retired workers, their spouses, children, and survivors of insured workers, but it will also encourage responsible resource development on public lands by generating revenue from energy production, livestock grazing, and timber harvesting. By directing public land revenues back into Social Security, this legislation reconnects American taxpayers with the lands they collectively own, allowing them to directly benefit from the nation's natural resources.

Additionally, the LASSO Act aligns with President Donald J. Trump's Sovereign Wealth Fund Executive Order by establishing a clear legislative framework for using the nation's natural resource assets to support Social Security. Our nation's seniors deserve solutions that ensure Social Security remains solvent for generations to come. HR 34 represents a practical and forward-thinking approach to stabilizing the program, protecting seniors, and promoting economic growth.

We thank you for your leadership on this important issue and stand ready to help advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Mangione Jr. Senior Vice President

**AMAC Action** 

# ALG Supports LASSO Act By U.S. Rep. Paul Gosar To Shore Up Social Security

March 28, 2025

March 28, 2025, Fairfax, Va.—Americans for Limited Government Executive Director Robert Romano today issued the following statement in support of H.R. 34 by U.S. Rep. Paul Gosar that will take revenues from lands under Interior Department jurisdiction to shore up the Social Security trust fund:

"Americans for Limited Government strongly supports the efforts by U.S. Rep. Paul Gosar in H.R. 34 to shore up the Social Security trust funds with revenues generated from lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior. With the Social Security trust funds due to run out in less than a decade, Congressman Gosar's legislation is timely and essential, and I urge immediate consideration by House leadership. This works very well with President Donald Trump's plans establishing a long overdue sovereign wealth fund for the U.S. that can also be used to help save Social Security and Medicare and maybe even help to balance the budget just by getting a better rate of return for taxpayers. For too long, elected representatives have overlooked the need to shore up the trust funds and so I thank Congressman Gosar and President Trump for their leadership and bold ideas to keep America's promise to seniors."

#### Attachments:

President Trump's Tariffs And Sovereign Wealth Fund Can Restore American Economic Primacy, Cut Inflation, By Robert Romano, March 27, 2025 at https://dailytorch.com/2025/03/president-trumps-tariffs-and-sovereign-wealth-fund-can-restore-american-economic-primacy-cut-inflation/

For media availability contact Americans for Limited Government at media@limitgov.org.

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Filed Under: Press Releases



# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 5, 2025

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# DOMESTIC ENERGY PRODUCERS' ALLIANCE ENDORSES H.R. 34, THE LASSO ACT, TO STRENGTHEN SOCIAL SECURITY AND UNLOCK AMERICA'S ENERGY POTENTIAL

**TULSA, OK** —The Domestic Energy Producers' Alliance (DEPA) proudly announces its full support for H.R. 34, the *Land and Social Security Optimization (LASSO) Act*, introduced by Congressman Paul Gosar. This forward-looking legislation offers a commonsense solution to two urgent national priorities:

- 1. ensuring the solvency of Social Security and
- 2. expanding responsible energy development on America's federal lands.

The LASSO Act requires that 10 percent of all revenue generated from lands managed by the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service—including submerged lands on the Outer Continental Shelf—be deposited directly into the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund, This trust fund is the primary Social Security fund that pays benefits to retired workers and their families.

"This is exactly the type of smart, pro-growth policy our country needs," said DEPA President and CEO Jerry Simmons. "The LASSO Act harnesses the economic potential of our public lands to help secure the future of Social Security. By linking domestic resource development to retirement security, this bill creates powerful incentives to support American energy production and ensure our seniors get the benefits they've earned."

## FUNDING SOCIAL SECURITY THROUGH AMERICAN RESOURCES

Without action, the OASI Trust Fund faces an estimated depletion by 2033, at which point the government would only be able to pay out approximately 77% of scheduled benefits. The FY 2023 shortfall alone was \$70.4 billion.

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Under H.R. 34, public lands—including onshore and offshore oil and gas operations, mineral development, timber harvesting, and grazing—would contribute directly to closing that gap. In fact, if the bill had been enacted in FY 2023, at least \$2 billion could have been deposited into the trust fund from existing royalties and receipts.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the LASSO Act is projected to add \$15 billion to the OASI Trust Fund over the next decade, bolstering the retirement benefits of millions of Americans without raising taxes or cutting benefits.

### REDIRECTING ROYALTIES FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

Currently, most royalties and revenues from federal land development are deposited into the U.S. Treasury's general fund, where they are spent without any specific connection to public programs. The LASSO Act reimagines this model by **directing a portion of these funds to serve a tangible, high-priority public purpose: safeguarding Social Security.**This bill not only supports retirees—it also promotes American energy independence and economic development. As energy producers face increasing regulatory burdens and politically motivated land withdrawals, H.R. 34 provides a strong counterbalance by rewarding productive use of federal lands.

#### A CLEAR PATH FORWARD

The LASSO Act disincentivizes excessive federal land withdrawals—such as the Biden administration's removal of 625 million acres of federal waters from future oil and gas leasing—and instead champions policies that generate revenue, energy, and jobs.

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"We believe in the power of responsible resource development to improve lives," Simmons added. "From the oil fields of Texas to the offshore platforms in the Gulf, America's energy producers stand ready to deliver value to the American people—not just through reliable energy, but through direct contributions to critical programs like Social Security."

DEPA urges Congress to act swiftly on H.R. 34 to preserve Social Security, promote energy security, and restore balance to the management of our public lands.

#### **About DEPA**

DEPA is a nationwide collaboration of 39 coalition associations – from California to West Virginia, Texas to Montana – representing individuals and companies engaged in domestic onshore oil and natural gas exploration and production. DEPA is a non-partisan association seeking common ground, and in common sense solutions to the challenges facing American oil and natural gas production.

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