

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

February 18, 1983

Dear Colleague:

As you are aware, sweeping and permanent changes in the Civil Service Retirement and Social Security Systems have been proposed. If enacted into law, these changes would affect the character of the Federal workforce for decades to come.

We have carefully studied these proposals and believe the following position is in the best interest of the Federal government and those who serve it:

We support the recommendation of the National Commission on Social Security Reform to extend social security coverage to newly hired Federal employees.

We believe that new Federal employees who become covered under social security should be provided retirement benefits comparable to those under the Civil Service Retirement System.

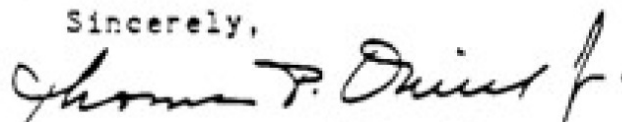
We oppose the Administration proposals that would reduce civil service retirement benefits and increase employee contributions to the Civil Service Retirement Fund.

We oppose the Administration proposal to treat cost-of-living adjustments for Federal retirees differently from those of social security recipients.


We will oppose any proposal which would threaten or adversely affect the financial integrity of the Civil Service Retirement Fund, or the ability of that fund to continue to pay benefits promised to participants in the Civil Service Retirement System.

We are certain that you will agree with us that the Federal civil service is vitally important to the welfare and progress of our nation and that we must take special pains to ensure that whatever we do does not damage that system.

Sincerely,

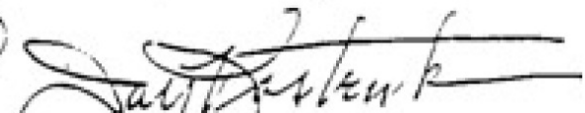


THOMAS P. O'NEILL, JR.
Speaker



WILLIAM D. FORD
Chairman

Committee on Post Office



DAN ROSTENKOWSKI
Chairman

Committee on Ways and Means