



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	23-1948	Version:	1	Name:	A Resolution Encouraging the Federal Government to Protect Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and Education
Type:	Resolution	Status:			Approved
File created:	3/10/2023	In control:			Board of Commissioners
On agenda:	3/16/2023	Final action:			3/16/2023
Title:	PROPOSED RESOLUTION				

A RESOLUTION ENCOURING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND EDUCATION

WHEREAS, millions of Americans rely on the federal government's programs, including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and funding for education; and

WHEREAS, Social Security is crucial for keeping millions of older Americans out of poverty; and

WHEREAS, Social Security benefits have important implications for the health and well-being of the elderly, and reductions in funding would lead to negative health outcomes for elderly adults; and

WHEREAS, without Social Security, 37.8% of elderly adults would have incomes below the official poverty line. With Social Security benefits, only 9% are currently below the poverty line; and

WHEREAS, about 6.5 million children under the age of 18 live in families that received income from Social Security in 2020, and these benefits lift approximately 1 million children above the poverty line; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid covers 91 million Americans, making it the largest source of health care coverage in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid covers 42% of all births, 6.9 million individuals aged 65 and over, and 10 million individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid pays for 10% of long-term care; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid coverage is linked directly to better health outcomes. Coverage in early life is associated with a decreased incidence of chronic conditions; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid beneficiaries are 13% less likely to have medical debt and 80% less likely to have experienced catastrophic medical expenses; and

WHEREAS, there have been discussions of raising the retirement age of Medicare from 65 to 67, re-opening the Medicare prescription drug donut hole, and increasing out of pocket drug spending for seniors, which would have a devastating effect on those that receive these benefits; and

WHEREAS, funding for education directly impacts student achievement and academic performance; and

WHEREAS, a 10% cut in education spending yielded a 7% of standard deviation decrease in academic achievement and, over four years, decreased graduation rates by almost 3%; and

WHEREAS, on average, a \$1,000 reduction in per-pupil spending reduces average test scores in

math and reading by 3.9% and lowers the college-going rate by almost 3%; and

WHEREAS, education funding also directly affects staff, and a \$1,000 decline in spending per pupil is associated with a hiring 3.7% fewer teachers, 5.3% fewer instruction aides, 3.3% fewer library staff members, and 12% fewer guidance counselors; and

WHEREAS, a \$1,000 reduction in per-pupil spending, on average, increases the score gap between black and white students by about 6%; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby encourage the Illinois Congressional delegation to reject any cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Illinois' Congressional delegation, the House Speaker and Minority Leader, the Senate Majority Leader and Minority Leader, and the White House.

Sponsors: KEVIN B. MORRISON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, Monica Gordon, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, MAGGIE TREVOR

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/16/2023	1	Board of Commissioners	approve	Pass

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