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Retirees Association, Inc. (SRA)

TelCo Retirees Association

January 29, 2009

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader

United States Senate

361A Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510-1702

Dear Senator McConnell:

As the U.S. Senate moves toward a vote on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, I want to let you know how important two provisions in the bill are to the more than 2 million members of the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN).

Most of the NRLN members are among the more than 55 million Americans on Social Security who would receive a one-time payment of \$300 under the proposed Act. You can count on Social Security recipients using this money to stimulate our nation's economy because the money would be spent on necessities such as food, prescription drugs and other health care expenses.

Also important to many NRLN members and millions of other Americans is the alternative minimum tax feature in the bill that has been championed by Senator Chuck Grassley. We agree with Senator Grassley's recent comments that it makes no sense to have an economic stimulus package in which tax benefits Americans appear to be getting will be taken away because of the alternative minimum tax. Senator Grassley is to be commended for his leadership in placing the alternative minimum tax patch for 2009 in the Senate bill.

Since it certainly appears that the Senate will enact some version of economic stimulus legislation, I hope you will support the Senate Finance Committee's bill that includes the \$300 one-time payment to Social Security recipients and the provision for the alternative minimum tax.

Thank you for your consideration on these important issues.

Sincerely,

President, National Retiree Legislative Network

Copy to:

Mr. Don Whitehouse, President

Ford FAIR Alliance

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Madisonville, KY 42431-8021