

December 4, 2025

Balancing the Scales: Retirement Security

Hard-earned retirement benefits are under attack nationwide, and working families are feeling it. These challenges are not accidental – they are the result of policy choices that make it harder for retirees to access the benefits they have earned.

[Medicare](https://usw.to/5iz) (usw.to/5iz)

- The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, signed into law in July, blocked a rule that would help low-income retirees enroll in Medicare Savings Programs that lower premiums and out-of-pocket costs. The Congressional Budget Office says 1.3 million seniors could lose or miss out on this help, forcing those near the poverty line to pay thousands more each year for basic care.

[Social Security](https://usw.to/5iL) (usw.to/5iL)

- Field office closures and staffing cuts at the Social Security Administration are causing long waits, delayed benefits, and fewer in-person services, making it harder for retirees to access the support they have earned.

These attacks weaken the retirement security generations of union members fought to build. The Balancing the Scales petition at your Local is one way we hold leaders accountable and require them to answer for their policy decisions.

Quick Check-In: Petition Materials

In October, USW Locals across the country received [Balancing the Scales petition materials](https://usw.to/5hj) (usw.to/5hj).

- If you have not reviewed them yet, now is the time. The packet highlights our key priorities and provides everything your Local needs to take action.
- If you did not get the materials or need help, contact your [Rapid Response District Coordinator](https://usw.to/5j1) (usw.to/5j1).

PICTURED: USW District 7 SOAR Chapter 30-18
after submitting their petition!



This petition shows that working people will not stand by while leaders prioritize corporate interests over our livelihoods.