

*We Retired Educator Executive Directors nationwide have been lobbying NRTA/AARP about WEP/GPO since 2003. We did get them to remove from their Legislative Platform mandatory Social Security on everyone. I think this is very good to let NRTA/AARP know about certain education retirees as well as other public pensioners, the effects and unfairness of WEP/GPO. We could sure use NRTA/AARP's help on this issue. Please consider writing.*

*THANKS!*

*Wayne P. Woodtke, ARTC Executive Director*

## ***Social Security Fairness Action Alert***

### **Request that AARP support the Repeal of WEP/GPO**

AARP, in 2006, was the #2 overall spender for federal lobbying (a major force, only behind the US Chamber of Commerce). AARP spent more than \$23 million on federal lobbying efforts in that year. The extent of AARP's huge and influential lobbying activities indicates the importance of gaining its support for the repeal.

**We need AARP to lobby for our cause!**

**PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS BELOW.**

#### **AARP'S CURRENT STATUS**

AARP, to date, has **NOT** taken a position to support the repeal of the WEP and GPO provisions. AARP staff has **NOT** acknowledged, in their publications on Social Security issues or on their website, the serious financial harm these unfair and unwarranted provisions have on large numbers of retirees and their families.

The result is a unique situation where AARP states the importance of Social Security income to the financial well-being of the nation's retirees and yet has taken **NO** action to protect the earned Social Security benefits that are being taken from large numbers of their current and future members.

The AARP website, [www.AARP.org](http://www.AARP.org), includes a section entitled "Our Fight: Keeping Social Security Strong". This article emphasizes that they take positions in support of the following:

--"You will receive the benefits you've earned over a lifetime of hard work if you pay into Social Security"

--"AARP and millions of Americans say "Don't target Social Security benefits for unfair cuts"

**HOWEVER...Unfair GPO/WEP cuts are already happening to retirees.**

**YOU CAN HELP!**

**HOW TO PROVIDE INPUT ON AARP WEBSITE:**

**1. Please provide your input by describing, in the comment box on their website, how the WEP/GPO penalties have affected you and/or your family or friends. You must register on their site to do this (uncheck AARP mail if you wish) The following link will take you to the**

AARP Soc.Sec. comments page: [http://www.aarp.org/work/social-security/info-08-2009/keeping\\_Social\\_Security\\_strong.html](http://www.aarp.org/work/social-security/info-08-2009/keeping_Social_Security_strong.html)

2. If you can make and upload a video of yourself describing how the WEP-GPO is affecting you, you can upload it to the AARP website at the following link:

[http://www.aarp.org/money/social-security/news-06-2010/social\\_security\\_turns\\_75\\_how\\_does\\_it\\_work\\_for\\_you.html](http://www.aarp.org/money/social-security/news-06-2010/social_security_turns_75_how_does_it_work_for_you.html) (We would also love to see your video.)

## **ONLY FOUR MONTHS TO DO MORE!!**

Only 4 months before the Dec. 1 report by National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform.

This is our third request for direct action this summer. If you have missed the others, please check our website under Action Alert, #11, #13— <http://www.ssfairness.com/action-alert.html>

Thank you! We appreciate your efforts. They help us all.