

A PEEK INSIDE THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The new Administration's appetite for chaos was not satisfied by DOGE's review of USAID, the FAA, the Education Department, and the Veteran's Administration. And so in early March DOGE moved on to the Social Security Administration. Predictably, there were claims of massive fraud, abuse, and just plain old bloat. Of course, without evidence or specifics.

The narrative fits the Administration's goal, which is reduce the size of the Federal Government to a small sailboat. If the Courts get in the way, the Administration still wants to lower taxes for the wealthiest one per cent. That's either Plan A, or Plan B. Probably Plan A.

So what do you think the DOGE minions saw when they took a peek under the hood of the Social Security Administration? If one were to depict the SSA, its structure, size, and organization, it would probably look something like this old neighborhood telephone relay box. That's how I picture it. Frankly, it's a wonder that SSA functions as well as it does. Benefit checks are deposited. Medicare cards are issued. Continuing benefits eligibility is reviewed. And claims are, somehow, processed.



As I predicted in my last email, Congress is now debating changes to Medicare, Medicaid, and to the Social Security program as a whole. Budget debates, and bills introduced in this Congressional year that address Social Security Disability law and programs, are in fact not designed to improve these programs. They are designed to serve the narrative of this Administration; less Government service - more private wealth. It's ugly folks,

but that's the deal.

USAID has been fed into the "wood chipper". The Department of Education is next. I don't think this Administration will try this with Social Security Disability. It has exhausted its limited political capitol in it's first sixty days. It's political capitol debt grows daily the farce of its's tariff wars. **So now is the time to write that letter or email to your Congressman, or Congresswoman.** You promised me that you would do this, right?

A short letter, no more than one page, reminding your representative how much you appreciate these benefits, and how critical these benefits are. Perhaps remind them, if you receive Title II benefits [SSD], that you worked, reported earnings, and paid taxes for ten?, twenty?, perhaps twenty five years. Until you became disabled, and no longer able to:

A. Earn a living, and or B. Support your family. Perhaps remind them, if you receive Title 16 benefits [SSI], that you value and appreciate these benefits. SSI was designed to, for example, support people whose illness or conditions either prevented them from entering the workforce, or preventing re-entry to the workforce.

And remind your representative that you are a voter, or perhaps voted for them in this past election cycle. Improvements to SSA would be welcome. But if DOGE is allowed to just open up the old relay box and start cutting wires then we're in chaos-ville. I would prefer to just prepare for - and win - claims. We'll see.