



## SAMPLE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RE: SUPER COMMITTEE

As a retired \_\_\_\_\_, I am worried that Congress may cut Social Security as a way of lowering federal spending.

All of us currently on Social Security paid for it through every paycheck we ever earned. Seniors here in [name of state or region] are already having a hard time getting by, so the last thing we should do is cut Social Security just so politicians can give more tax breaks for millionaires and big corporations.

Social Security is a promise that our government makes to everyone who works hard and pays their taxes. A promise is a promise, not something you can break just because the big lobbyists are asking for more tax breaks.

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I would like my fellow retirees here in [state or area] to pay close attention as Congress tries cut Social Security as a way of lowering the budget deficit. What people need to know is that Social Security is not why we have a big debt. Social Security is something we all contribute to through taxes taken out of every paycheck we ever earned. The deficit is caused by bad spending choices, such as all these tax breaks for millionaires and big businesses.

Whenever you hear a politician say we have to cut Social Security in order to lower the deficit, don't believe it. To me, politicians say those things because they don't want you to know about all the big breaks they are giving to corporate lobbyists.

Social Security is the only way that most seniors here in [ ] are able to get by. Yes, we need to improve our economy, but punishing people who paid Social Security taxes all their lives is the wrong way to do it.

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I don't think enough people know about it, but Congress may consider big cuts to Medicare. For many retirees, Medicare is the only way seniors can afford to see a doctor or fill a prescription. A lot of people worked for places that were supposed to provide retiree health coverage, but many of these companies have broken their word. Medicare is all most of us have.

I can just picture all the lobbyists from the big drug and insurance companies running around Capitol Hill. They'll want to make changes in Medicare that will take better care of their health than ours.

I hope that our state's Senators and Representatives remember the seniors back here in [name of state] who count on Medicare to stay healthy.

Retirees and people of all ages who worry about the high cost of nursing home and long-term care need to keep a close watch as Congress considers cuts in Medicaid.

For most people, Medicaid is the only way most people can afford nursing home and long-term care. From what I read, Congress is taking a close look at programs like Medicaid that help many people here in [name of state].

It makes me mad that at a time when we give all sorts of tax breaks and loopholes to the wealthy, some people think we don't have enough money to help those who are sick or injured. These are the politicians who lecture us about values?

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TIPS



- Keep them around or under 200 words
- Include your full name, address and daytime phone number so the newspaper can verify the letter's authenticity.
- The subject matter should be relevant, provocative, constructive and timely. Passion and humor are good.

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