



President
Barbara J. Easterling

Secretary-Treasurer
Ruben Burks

August 25, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to you about a growing pattern of disturbing, insensitive, biased, and offensive comments by former Senator Alan Simpson, the Co-Chair of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. On behalf of the four million members of the Alliance for Retired Americans, I urge you to demand Mr. Simpson's resignation.

In an e-mail to the Executive Director of the Older Women's League, Simpson wrote that Social Security is "like a milk cow with 310 million tits." Furthermore, he also told her to, "call when you get honest work."

This is conduct unbecoming a person named to co-chair a presidential panel. Moreover, it is the latest in a series of derisive and inappropriate comments Mr. Simpson has made about our nation's seniors and the Social Security benefits they have earned and rely upon to make ends meet.

He has also said, according to multiple news sources:

- "Where do I get my mail? From these old cats 70 and 80 years old who are not affected in one whiff. People who live in gated communities and drive their Lexus to the Perkins restaurant to get the AARP discount."
- That older Americans are "greedy geezers";
- That the economically-disadvantaged are the "lesser people in society."

Mr. President, the Alliance for Retired Americans fully supports your goal of lowering the federal budget deficit, but as you know Social Security has not added one cent to the debt. We do not want a large debt to be the legacy we leave behind to our children and grandchildren. But the growing series of venomous comments by Mr. Simpson greatly compromises his ability to lead a panel that tackles these complex issues in a thorough and objective manner.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Edward F. Coyle in black ink.

Edward F. Coyle
Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Barbara J. Easterling in black ink.

Barbara J. Easterling
President

