



HR0927

LRB096 20911 GRL 36716 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Social Security Fairness Act of 2009 was  
3 introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives on January 7,  
4 2009 as H.R. 235 and into the U.S. Senate on February 25, 2009  
5 as S. 484; and

6           WHEREAS, The Social Security Fairness Act of 2009 amends  
7 Title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government  
8 Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision; and

9           WHEREAS, The Government Pension Offset was enacted in 1977  
10 and the Windfall Elimination Provision was enacted in 1983; and

11           WHEREAS, The majority of public employees affected by the  
12 Government Pension Offset lost their entire spousal benefit  
13 despite the fact that their spouses paid Social Security  
14 contributions for many years; and

15           WHEREAS, An affected public employee loses an average of  
16 \$3,000 per year because of the Government Pension Offset; and

17           WHEREAS, The Windfall Elimination Provision causes public  
18 employees to lose up to 60% of the benefits that they earned;  
19 and

1           WHEREAS, According to the Social Security Administration's  
2 actuaries, the long-term cost of eliminating both of these  
3 provisions is negligible while the loss of income to affected  
4 employees caused by these provisions forces some civil servants  
5 into poverty; and

6           WHEREAS, These provisions discriminate against teachers,  
7 police, firefighters, social workers, and other civil  
8 servants; and

9           WHEREAS, The State and national shortage of teachers,  
10 police officers, and firefighters is exacerbated by these  
11 provisions because they discourage people from entering and  
12 staying in these professions; therefore, be it

13           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
15 urge the U.S. Congress to pass the Social Security Fairness Act  
16 of 2009 or other legislation that eliminates both the  
17 Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination  
18 Provision; and be it further

19           RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
20 delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the  
21 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member  
22 of the Illinois Congressional delegation.