

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2012

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Chairman
Committee on the Budget
U.S. House of Representatives
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

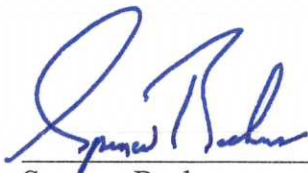
Dear Mr. Chairman,

We are writing to call your attention to concerns we have about a provision in House Report 112-421 that recommends Congress consider changes to the Railroad Retirement system.

Railroad Retirement is funded by rail workers and their employers, and Congress has a responsibility to ensure that these workers receive the benefits they have been promised. Altering Railroad Retirement Tier 1 benefits as proposed would significantly impact railroad employees and their families, and we are unconvinced that it would provide any savings to taxpayers. It is our strong belief that Congress should preserve the Railroad Retirement system as we work to address our nation's fiscal challenges.

Thank you for your attention to our views. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress



Steven LaTourette
Member of Congress