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### **'It is our duty' to reform entitlement programs**

Washington, D.C. – President Bush again called for Congress to match his commitment to Social Security reform in Tuesday's State of the Union address. "Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid are commitments of conscience – and so it is our duty to keep them permanently sound. Yet we are failing in that duty – and this failure will one day leave our children with three bad option: huge tax increases, huge deficits, or huge and immediate cuts in benefits," the president said. "With enough good sense and good will, you and I can fix Medicare and Medicaid – and save Social Security."

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and others have been working to coordinate bipartisan reform efforts in the last few months, and the president's remarks reflect a growing sense that we should reign in entitlement programs sooner rather than later. Total entitlement spending is expected to consume 15% of GDP by 2030.

Mark Harris, National Director of Students for Saving Social Security, responds: "The president remains committed to reform, and we hope that Congress uses this opportunity to save our generation from working hard and retiring poor. We know the options – good and bad. Now we need to move past the debate and come together before it is too late."

S4 is a non-partisan, grassroots organization on college campuses advocating for Social Security reform through personal ownership. With 6,500 members and chapters in all fifty states, Students for Saving Social Security is the largest student group dedicated to informing and mobilizing young Americans on the issue of entitlement reform.