

Students for Saving Social Security www.SecureOurFuture.org Contact: Ben Ferguson (901) 849-4102

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Students Told Senator Lieberman Staff Favors Raising Taxes

Students for Saving Social Security members told Senator Lieberman will not consider strengthening Social Security for young Americans, but staff would raise taxes

Washington D.C. –Students for Saving Social Security, a non-partisan student group with over 155 chapters in more than 40 states nationwide, stormed the Upper Senate Park at 12:00 p.m. today to advocate for personal ownership over their retirement.

The students served snow cones as part of their effort to keep pressure for real reform on key members of the Senate Finance Committee. A blizzard of students blanketed the park with an ice sculpture, snow cones and other weather-related themes.

Following the storm, students met with members of the Senate Finance Committee to discuss their concerns about Social Security including Senator Joe Lieberman's staff. More than twenty students met with Senator Lieberman's staff.

"We were very excited for the opportunity to meet with Senator Lieberman's staff and discuss taking ownership of our retirements," said, Jonathan Swanson, a senior at Yale University and co-founder of SecureOurFuture.org. "Unfortunately, we were told that personal accounts were a non-starter with Senator Lieberman. He won't even take an official position on the issue."

"It's bad enough that Senator Lieberman won't let us have control over our Social Security taxes," added Ben Ferguson, a senior at University of Mississippi and Communications Director for Secureourfuture.org. "It's even worse that the one solution his office does have is to raise taxes.

"Social Security is facing a crisis because of the tax and spend policies of Congress," continued Patrick Wetherille, co-founder of SecureOurFuture.org. "New taxes are not the solution. They will only hurt the economy and cost young people jobs."

SSSS is a non-partisan, grassroots organization on college campuses advocating for Social Security reform through personal ownership. As the largest student group tackling the issue, SecureOurFuture.org is leading the charge to inform and mobilize young Americans to advocate for reform. Swanson concluded, "The proposal from Lieberman's office was a double whammy for young people. Not only might we not have our retirement money, but we'll pay higher taxes too."