

Murphy Supports Bill to Give Seniors Greater Economic Security; Legislation to Provide Seniors \$250 Fails Under Republican Opposition

As Connecticut seniors prepare for no cost of living adjustment in their Social Security checks next year, today Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) voted to provide some additional economic security to Social Security recipients in the form of a \$250 one time payment. However, the Seniors Protection Act failed to garner enough Republican support to pass the House.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - As Connecticut seniors prepare for no cost of living adjustment in their Social Security checks next year, today Congressman Chris Murphy (CT-5) voted to provide some additional economic security to Social Security recipients in the form of a \$250 one time payment. However, the Seniors Protection Act failed to garner enough Republican support to pass the House.

"Connecticut seniors are hurting right now, yet Republicans in Washington decided to take a political stand rather than do what is right for the country. Their actions are a startling peek into how they plan to run this town in just a few weeks, and only strengthened my resolve to fight for policies that help people, particularly seniors and the middle class, get through this economy," said Murphy.

For the first time ever, 2011 will be the second consecutive year that Social Security retirees and other beneficiaries will receive no automatic increase in their monthly Social Security, SSI, VA Pension and Compensation, and Railroad

Retirement benefits. Social Security cost of living adjustments are tied to inflation, and due to the recession, inflation rates have dictated no increase in Social Security benefits.

This \$250 payment would have helped seniors, veterans, railroad retirees and people with disabilities who receive Social Security make ends meet during this tough time, when housing values are down, other retirement income is volatile, and many are facing rising expenses. The legislation is supported by the AARP, the Alliance for Retired Americans, the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Military Officers Association of America.

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