



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 15, 2018

Contact: Linda Benesch, [240-342-4301](tel:240-342-4301), lbensch@socialsecurityworks.org

Social Security Works Statement for House Natural Resources Committee Hearing on FY19 Budget

(Washington, DC) — The following is a statement from [Alex Lawson](#), President of Social Security Works, in reaction to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke's proposal to raise fees for visiting national parks:

"The only thing more reprehensible than Ryan Zinke's plan to jack up fees for visiting national parks is his blaming the price hike on seniors, Americans with disabilities, and veterans. The average Social Security retirement benefit is \$1,369 a month and the average Social Security disability benefit is \$1,172 a month. If Zinke goes through with his plan it will make it impossible for millions of Americans to visit our country's greatest natural treasures.

Zinke is a disgrace to the legacy of President Theodore Roosevelt, and everyone who has worked hard for over 100 years to make our nation's national parks accessible to everyone."

###

[Social Security Works](#) staffs the [Strengthen Social Security Coalition](#), which is comprised of more than 350 national and state organizations representing more than 50 million Americans from many of the nation's leading aging, labor, disability, women's, veterans', consumer, civil rights and equality organizations.