

RESOLUTION NO. 50- 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Nelson, Council President Jordan, and Mayor Thomas

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SAVING NEIGHBORHOOD SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OFFICES, STAFFING THEREOF, AND CUTS IN SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE, AND MEDICAID BENEFITS.

WHEREAS, neighborhood Social Security Administration (“SSA”) offices and employees have faithfully served the public in communities across the country since 1935; and

WHEREAS, Social Security benefits are the best protection against falling into poverty for Americans since its inception in 1935; and

WHEREAS, local Social Security offices, staffed with trained civil Servants across the nation provide service to millions of Americans each year, in person and by telephone; and

WHEREAS, 20 percent of the staff in local SSA offices are veterans; and

WHEREAS, 9.7 million Americans receiving Social Security benefits are veterans; and

WHEREAS, millions of veterans and their families depend on their monthly checks from Social Security for housing and food; and

WHEREAS, older adults are the fastest growing population of homeless persons, including thousands of veterans and families; and

WHEREAS, more than 11,000 Americans reach retirement age each day; and

WHEREAS, staffing at the Social Security Administration has fallen to a 50-year low while workloads have increased; and

WHEREAS, the current Administration has announced a plan to cut staff dramatically to take federal tax dollars from our communities and transfer those dollars to billionaires by reducing their taxes; and

WHEREAS, cutting costs leads to closing neighborhood Social Security offices and dozens of such closings have already been announced; and

WHEREAS, millions of Americans depend on nearby offices for: filing for benefits; resolving problems with payments and work records; generating Social Security Numbers; and providing replacement Social Security cards, income and award letters, and applications for retirement, disability and Supplemental Security Income (“SSI”); and

WHEREAS, more than 79 million Americans receive Medicaid and the U.S. House budget resolution in 2025 plans steep cuts to provide tax breaks for the 1% of Americans; and

WHEREAS, Medicare serves more than 68 million Americans and is targeted for cuts by the current Administration in order to cut taxes on the richest Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Richmond Heights, State of Ohio, that:

Section 1: This Council and Mayor Thomas oppose the closing of local Social Security offices and SSA staffing cuts.

Section 2: This Council and Mayor Thomas support robust staffing of and maintaining local office facilities to serve the public in a timely manner in this community and all communities across the state and nation.

Section 3: This Council and Mayor Thomas oppose any cuts in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid benefits.

Section 4: This Council and Mayor Thomas support U.S. House of Representative Bills, introduced March 5, 2025 -- "Keeping Our Field Offices Open Act", "Protecting Americans Social Security Data Act", and S. 770, "The Social Security Expansion Act".

Section 5: The Council Clerk is instructed to mail a copy of this Resolution to: President Donald J. Trump, Vice President James D. Vance, U.S. Senator Jon Husted, U.S. Senator Bernie Moreno, U.S. Congress Member Shontel Brown, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Mike Johnson, and Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate John Thune.

Section 6: It is found and determined that all formal actions and deliberations of Council and its committees, relating to the passage of this legislation that resulted in formal action were in meetings open to the public where required by Chapter 105 of the Codified Ordinances of the City.

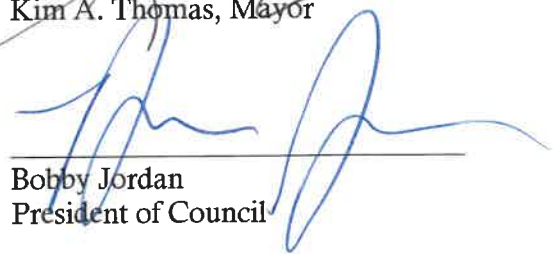
Section 7: This Resolution shall at the earliest time provided by law.

PASSED: April 8, 2025

APPROVED: April 8, 2025

ATTEST: Tracey Blair  
Tracey Blair  
Clerk of Council

  
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Kim A. Thomas, Mayor

  
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Bobby Jordan  
President of Council