

CARA Alert – November 1, 2021

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

CARA'S 18TH ANNUAL CONVENTION- A HUGE SUCCESS!!!!



Wow, Wow, Wow! What a great 2 days we shared. CARA's 18th Annual Convention was full of great speeches, great information, elections, entertainment, fun and games, and more. But the best part was having almost 800 members and friends register and more than 500 people attend all or part of both days. There were so many thrilling moments, that we cannot capture them all here. Thank goodness we recorded the two days, which are now uploaded to the CARA website, along with the power point presentations, videos, fact sheets and more. Go to this link to see it all again, or for the first time at <https://californiaalliance.org/caracon2021resources/>.

A big congratulations goes to our newly elected Board members, especially our new **President, Pauline Brooks** and **Secretary Richard Holober**, along with 11 new Community Vice Presidents, 8 Union Vice Presidents and 2 new At Large Vice Presidents. A big hug and thank you go to our outgoing Board members, especially **Nan Brasmer** (president) and **Dawn Bronsema** (secretary).

We also welcomed many new folks to this year's Convention and hope they will continue to participate in CARA's activities. A great place to plug in and get involved is in our local CARA Action Teams (CAT), which are still meeting virtually by teleconference and phone (and hopefully in person sometime in 2022 when it is safe to do so). You can find your local CAT here: <https://californiaalliance.org/cara-action-teams/>

None of this would have been possible without the CARA Board of Directors and CARA's wonderful volunteers, our incredible staff and translator, and of course our donors (who are listed in the program book with videos on our website from our biggest donors). As with everything CARA does, it was a team effort, and CARA is so lucky to have a winning team. Thank you to everyone who made this year's virtual event a success!

Social Security 2100 A Sacred Trust Introduced (HR 5723)!!!

We are so excited to report that on October 26th, 2021 – Day 1 of the CARA Convention, Congressman Larson and other U.S. Representatives introduced HR 5723, the Social Security 2100 Act. This bill will increase Social Security benefits for all beneficiaries, improve the COLA formula, repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO), increase benefits for the oldest old, reduce waiting periods, provide caregiver credits, strengthen the service of the Social Security Administration, make it easier to get SSI and SSDI and begin to SCRAP the CAP by ensuring that millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share by applying FICA to earnings above \$400,000. CARA and our national partners have been working to address many of the issues included in this omnibus bill. The time is NOW to talk with our Congressional Representatives to urge their support of this important legislation. Stay tuned to future CARA Alerts when we will share opportunities to engage and advocate!!!!

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