



April 24, 2018

Ms. Leslie Cockburn  
c/o Leslie Cockburn for Congress  
PO Box 186  
Sperryville, VA 22740

Dear Ms. Cockburn:

The National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, on behalf of its millions of members and supporters, including 4,409 in Virginia's 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, enthusiastically endorses your candidacy for nomination and election to the United States House of Representatives.

Our nation needs your leadership, vision and determination to fight for working families and older Americans. You earned the endorsement of the National Committee because you understand and support the critical roles that Social Security and Medicare play in the retirement and health security of our nation's older citizens and their families. You are well-prepared to serve the needs of seniors and will make the preservation and enhancement of Social Security and Medicare a priority in Congress.

You understand that looming deficits and calls for "entitlement reform" will renew efforts to cut benefits and privatize Social Security, undermining the nation's most successful social insurance program. You appreciate that Social Security has not contributed to the nation's debt and its modest benefits – on average only \$16,848 annually and even lower for women – are earned and should not be cut in order to reduce spending. You recognize fully that Medicare is crucial to the health of older Americans, many of whom cannot afford higher out-of-pocket costs that some in Congress are calling for as a way of reducing the deficit while doing nothing to restrain general health care inflation. You appreciate that steps already had been taken to extend the viability of Medicare, to close the prescription drug coverage gap known as the "donut hole," to provide preventive services without copays and deductibles, and that these noteworthy improvements must not be repealed. National Committee members and supporters want you to protect and enhance Social Security and Medicare – the twin pillars necessary to a good quality of life for Americans of all ages – in the United States House of Representatives.

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There is no membership in the nation more aware or active politically than the men and women who proudly are associated with the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. National Committee members know they can count on you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Max Richtman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Max Richtman  
President & CEO  
Chairman, NCPSSM-PAC Board of Directors