

News and Views 25

Date 3/21/25

Issue # 11 - "Social INSecurity"

Topic - Is Social Security at risk?

The stated goal of DOGE is to reduce **"Waste, Fraud and Abuse"**. Their approach to Social Security appears to be taking a very different approach to that goal, as will be found in the following reports.

If I were managing a company selling a product or service to a large number of consumers, the first thing I would do is to research and identify what parts of my organization actually are involved in waste, fraud or abuse. Then I would determine the best way to correct the problem - Retraining where helpful, firing where needed, restructuring where appropriate.

During this process I would be careful that my customers would not be negatively affected, that my suppliers would be assured that the company would do everything to maintain its sources of suppliers or services, and that the company would not be exposed to negative relations with the public opinion.

The DOGE approach is different. Their approach would have me first fire several company officials who I don't like (maybe because they drive fords instead of the car type I prefer - chevys?) close most of my retail outlets, fire my customer service hotline staff, require my customers to drive many miles to what few stores are available to obtain my product, and require that they pick up the product in person, and not use FedEx UPS, Amazon or the Post Office to deliver the product.

During this period I would be required to allow competitors to have access to my data showing my customers information, sources of supply and financial information, subjecting my business potential loss of loyalty to my customers and exposing my suppliers information to our competitors.

Even customers who use my product for critical and time sensitive or life care purposes would have to go to extremely burdensome conditions to get my product.

In other words, They would try to make my company better by first destroying it.

In the News

Morning Joe - MSNBC3/11/25 -

"Elon Musk said we have to eliminate Social Security and Medicare." [Watch here](#)

Politifact, 2/15/25-

"Are 150-year-old Americans receiving Social Security checks, as Elon Musk said? The explanation for 150-year-olds receiving checks could relate to arcane coding practices, experts said." [Read more](#)

ABC News 2/19/25

"President [Donald Trump](#) and Elon Musk, in their hunt for "fraud, waste and abuse" in the federal government, are falsely implying millions of dead Americans are receiving Social Security benefits, experts told ABC News." [Read more](#)

Molly Weston Williamson, senior fellow with the Center for American Progress
3/18/25

DOGE attacks on Social Security

"The Trump administration is intensifying attacks on the Social Security Administration and jeopardizing the vital benefits [1 in 5 Americans](#) rely on. Under President Donald Trump-appointed leadership, the SSA recently announced its intent to eliminate [7,000 jobs](#), slicing the agency's already skeletal staff down to the marrow. The SSA's shrinking workforce already has been [covering an increasing number of beneficiaries for years](#). With no capacity to spare, the consequences could quickly turn dire." [Read more](#)

Andrew Perez - Rolling Stone 3/20/25

Trump Admin Threatens to Stop Social Security If DOGE Can't Have Personal Data

"Donald Trump's interim Social Security chief suggested Thursday night he will effectively turn off the agency that manages the essential safety net program for seniors and the disabled, if Elon Musk and his so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) can't access the non-anonymized sensitive personal information and data of hundreds of millions of Americans, based on a judge's order." [Read more](#)

AXIOS 3/13/25

Who loses if Social Security breaks

"DOGE is taking its wrecking ball to the Social Security Administration, the agency responsible for overseeing retirement and disability [benefits for](#) 73 million Americans."

[Read more](#)

User Views

3/15 - *“Thanks Mike, you, and others of us are standing as best we can, against this incoming bitter tide and it seems time is running out to make a decision, a choice. whether we are Republicans or Democrats; this is our country, and the situation is far beyond party politics. Some of us may choose to stand against autocracy, to stand with autocracy or to do nothing. That’s how Trump got elected and how he’s now ruling—with the silent permission of those who choose to do nothing. I hope they will be the last to complain. I love and respect my fellow Americans whatever party they are in. The question is, do they love and respect me, this middle of the road radical?”*