

MICHAEL R. PENCE
SIXTH DISTRICT, INDIANA

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COURTS, THE INTERNET, AND
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEE:

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA—RANKING MEMBER

Congress of the United States
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February 7, 2008

Carl M. Hagen
Council of Seniors
5235 Westview Drive, Suite 100
Frederick, Maryland 21703-8397

Dear Friend:

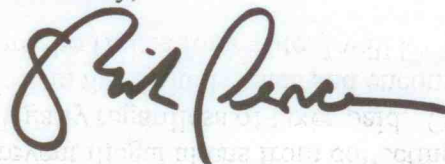
Thank you for contacting me regarding Social Security totalization treaties between the U.S. and other countries. It was a pleasure to hear from you.

As you are aware, the Social Security program provides monthly payments to workers, dependants and survivors who worked in Social Security covered jobs for ten years or more. All employees working in Social Security covered jobs must pay Social Security payroll taxes regardless of their citizenship status. This category also includes those who are here temporarily and illegal aliens working in the United States. Under current law, countries with a "totalization" agreement with the United States coordinate the payment of Social Security taxes and benefits for workers who divide their careers between two countries.

Several proposals have been offered in Congress to prevent illegal aliens from collecting Social Security payments if they were in the United States illegally regardless of taxes paid. Our immigration policies must not undermine the rule of law in the United States and encourage illegal activity. Should relevant legislation come before the House for a vote, I will keep your views in mind.

Again, thank you for contacting me. It is an honor to serve in the United States House of Representatives and have the benefit of your advice. If you would like more information on this or any other issue, please visit my website at <http://mikepence.house.gov>.

Sincerely,



Mike Pence
Member of Congress

MRP:dc