Written by WisDems Press, Hannah Menchhoff Friday, 12 August 2022 10:22 -



"It is a frontal attack on programs that American workers and seniors love, have dutifully paid for with every paycheck, and depend on for a healthy and secure retirement."

MADISON, Wis. — A new op-ed slammed Ron Johnson for once again threatening Social Security and Medicare funding and made clear that older Wisconsinites will be voting against Johnson in November.

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: <u>Our ancestors created Social Security. Ron Johnson's idea</u> would destroy it, and Medicare along with it

Key Points:

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What a tragic irony that a U.S. senator from Wisconsin, Ron Johnson, now seeks to wreck Social Security and Medicare. Wisconsin played a key role in giving birth to both programs and ensuring their success.

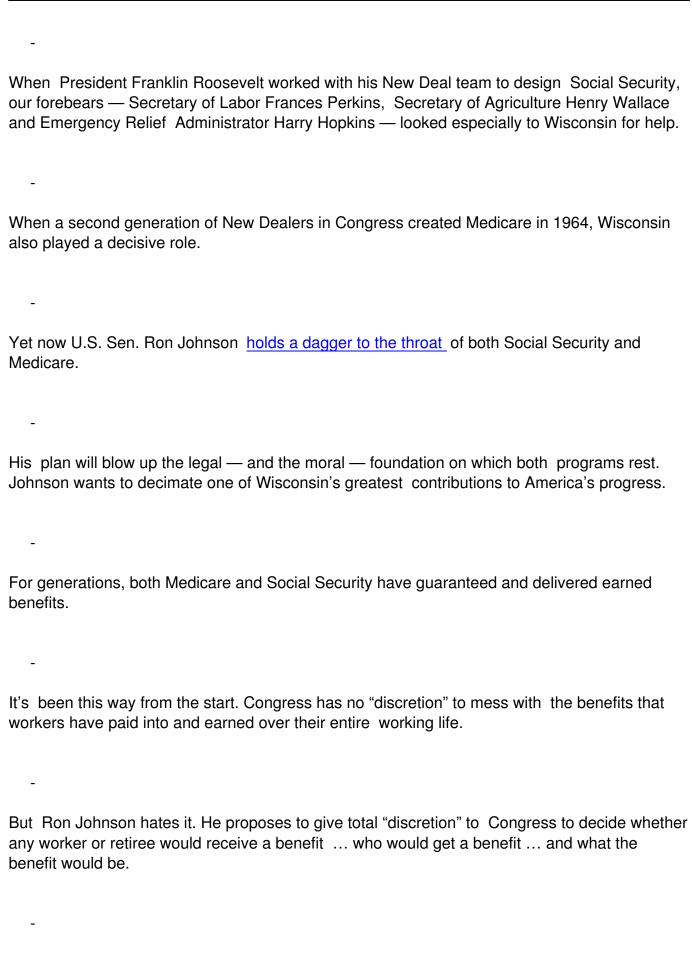
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We know. Our grandparents created Social Security.

Ron Johnson Would "Wreck Social Security and Medicare"

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No longer would workers, seniors looking toward retirement and current retirees be able to count on a hard-earned, reliable, old-age health care program. Nor would they have a hard-earned, predictable pension to count on as they age and retire.

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"Discretion" has its place. But Johnson's scheme will destroy workers' and retirees' legal right to guaranteed, predictable health care and retirement income.

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The programs could even be wiped out entirely. Their fundamental insurance structure — if you pay your premium, you legally qualify for guaranteed benefits — would vanish like smoke.

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FDR himself <u>explained</u> the reasoning behind creating Social Security as an insurance program that workers pay into through payroll taxes — "to give the contributors a legal, moral, and political right to collect their pensions and their unemployment benefits. With those taxes in there, no damn politician can ever scrap my social security program."

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Johnson's opponent in the Nov. 8 election, Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes, is pretty blunt, too, objecting

that "self-serving multi-millionaire senator Ron Johnson wants to strip working people of the Social Security and Medicare they've earned."

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It is a frontal attack on programs that American workers and seniors love, have dutifully paid for with every paycheck, and depend on for a healthy and secure retirement.

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On behalf of our New Deal ancestors, we recommend that all Wisconsinites who cherish these long-standing programs of financial security should exercise their "discretion" to remove Ron Johnson from the U.S. Senate when they vote in November.