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As part of its aggressive campaign seeking repeal of the State income tax on Social Security benefits, Fairfield Senior Advocates, a nonpartisan citizen action group, appeared at today's Committee on Aging hearing in Hartford. "Raised Bill 6987 in the General Assembly gives Connecticut seniors what they desperately need, income tax relief," said Gordon Mackenzie of Fairfield, leader of the FSA Social Security initiative, who appeared at the hearing.

"During the November 2016 election campaign many legislative candidates made repeal of the State income tax on Social Security part of their electoral platforms. We expect them to fulfill that promise, and this Bill is a step in that direction," said FSA coordinating director Urb Leimkuhler of Fairfield.

More than 70 legislators from both parties are sponsoring 20+ bills in the House and Senate that would eliminate the income tax on Social Security. Mackenzie indicated that "introducing a bill is a good start, but we won't be satisfied until it is released from Committee, voted on and enacted into law, repealing the tax".

Mackenzie continued "Only 13 states currently tax Social Security income. Connecticut's neighboring states of New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and

Pennsylvania don't tax these benefits. We are one of only four states losing population, and there is growing evidence that retirees are leaving because of taxes targeted on retirees." "Retaining our seniors is in the best interest of our families and our finances," said Leimkuhler.

FSA is engaged in a comprehensive communications campaign with legislators and is building coalitions with advocacy groups Statewide. Leimkuhler and Mackenzie both noted overwhelming support for repeal in the responses FSA has received from legislators.



Advocating to make Fairfield affordable and desirable for seniors