**LIGHT ONE CANDLE VIGIL FOR SOCIAL SECURITY**

Light one candle for the 30,000 Americans who died waiting for their benefits, and for swift, compassionate service that could save countless lives.

Light one candle for our veterans who served this country twice - in uniform and at SSA - now facing the door, and our continued dedication to give them gratitude for their service and dedication to our country.

Light one candle for the 7,000 workers being forced out of their long, purposeful careers at SSA, and for the restoration of their dignity and sense of purpose.

Light one candle for the elderly who cannot navigate technology, and for the community offices and well trained workers that would welcome them with dignity.

Light one candle for the disabled Americans waiting eight months for decisions, and for the efficient fully staffed workforce that could deliver timely support.

Light one candle for workplace protections being dismantled, and for the restoration of civil rights offices that shield the vulnerable.

Light one candle for the 73 million Americans who depend on these benefits, and for the security that a fully-staffed agency would provide them.

Light one candle for the billions of dollars in overpayments that burden our most vulnerable citizens, and for the properly staffed offices that would prevent these costly errors before they happen.

Light one candle for the restoration of 1.2% funding of benefit outlays, and for the revitalized agency that could once again fulfill its sacred mission to the American people.

Light one candle for communities that lose vital economic support when offices close, and for the local prosperity that thriving Social Security offices create.

Light one candle for workers forced to choose between their jobs and their health, and for the flexible work arrangements that would keep them productive serving the public.

Light one candle for the overwhelming majority - 87% of Americans - who believe Social Security must remain a priority, and for a government that listens to its people.

Light one candle for a Social Security Administration that operates on less than 1% overhead, and for the recognition of this remarkable efficiency.

Light one candle for the promise we made to care for each other, and for a renewed commitment to keep that promise.