

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.157

Reps. Tisdell, Bezotte, Liberati and Steenland offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to urge the members of Congress to take action to  
2 mitigate the depletion of the Social Security and Medicare Trust  
3 Funds.

4       Whereas, Social Security benefits are paid to more than 65  
5 million Americans, including some who use the financial resource to  
6 stay out of poverty. Approximately 21.7 million Americans would  
7 have been in poverty in 2020 without Social Security benefits.  
8 Vulnerable individuals, including the aging population and people  
9 with disabilities, depend on Social Security to supplement other  
10 forms of income. The Social Security Administration reports that  
11 Social Security benefits account for at least one-third of the  
12 income of the elderly; and

1       Whereas, Medicare helps pay medical costs for over 57 million  
2 individuals per year on average. Medicare allows for individuals to  
3 receive medical care and prescription drugs that they otherwise may  
4 not be able to afford. Many people enrolled in Medicare live with  
5 health problems and almost half of enrollees have incomes below 200  
6 percent of the federal poverty level. Estimates showed that 19  
7 percent of Medicare beneficiaries had no other form of supplemental  
8 insurance in 2016; and

9       Whereas, Projections in Social Security and Medicare trustees  
10 reports estimate that Social Security will only be able to pay 78  
11 percent of scheduled benefits by 2034, and Medicare will only be  
12 able to pay 91 percent of full costs by 2026. Americans will suffer  
13 without essential benefits paid by these programs, despite paying  
14 tax dollars towards Social Security and Medicare. Lacking full  
15 Medicare benefits, many Americans will not be able to afford  
16 crucial medical services. The depletion of these social safety nets  
17 poses a great threat to not only current beneficiaries, but all  
18 those who may benefit in the future; now, therefore, be it

19       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the  
20 United States Congress to take action to mitigate the depletion of  
21 the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds; and be it further

22       Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
23 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United  
24 States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan  
25 congressional delegation.