

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.157

Rep. Tisdell 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

13       Whereas, Medicare helps pay medical costs for over 57 million

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

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

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

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