

# Letters to the e

## Where I stand on Social Security

Social Security is a difficult topic to discuss in a 30-minute interview.

Cindy Larson's interpretation of my plan for Social Security is not accurate. I would like to set the record straight.

My plan would allow the worker to retain both the employer and employee portions of the OASI tax totaling 10.6 percent of wages, approximately \$3,600 per year per worker. The employee would be required to open up an IRA-style account at a financial institution of their choice. This account would be controlled by the employee. The employer's 5.3 percent tax would be direct-deposited into this account. The employee's 5.3 percent would be left in their paycheck. The money contributed to Social Security to date has been spent on Social Security benefits to retirees. It cannot be paid back without taxing the worker first.

The current \$1.355 trillion in the trust fund would be used to pay a \$1,000 a month benefit to those in need.

This is much larger than the average Social Security benefit today. This payment would be adjusted yearly, based not on inflation, but the change in the U.S. average wage.

You can check out my plan at  
[www.justsayno.50megs.com/means\\_test.html](http://www.justsayno.50megs.com/means_test.html)

*William Larsen  
Republican Primary Candidate  
District 3 U.S. Representative*