October 12, 2021

Dr. Kilolo Kijakazi  
Acting Commissioner  
Social Security Administration  
6401 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore MD, 21207

Everett Kelley  
President  
American Federation of Government Employees  
80 F Street NW  
Washington DC, 20001

Dear Dr. Kijakazi and Mr. Kelley,

We write to urge you to work together to develop a plan to reopen the more than 1,500 Social Security field offices that are currently closed to the public. Numerous constituents across our districts have reached out to us to express their frustrations with access to Social Security Administration (SSA) field offices. Many of our constituents from vulnerable populations who lack access to reliable internet, or do not have a reliable phone number or mailing address, are struggling to access Social Security services. In order to provide the services the American people are entitled to, it is imperative that these field offices reopen.

We are also concerned the continued closure of SSA’s field offices will result in further delays in processing critical benefits and other services, on top of the already existing benefits backlog. A recent report from the SSA’s Office of the Inspector General found that SSA is facing a backlog of unprocessed mail, including benefit applications and requests for Social Security cards. As you are aware, delays in these areas can cause significant hardship for beneficiaries.

The health and safety of federal employees should be a priority in any reopening plan. With the availability of three safe and highly effective vaccines however, it is clear that field offices can be reopened safely. Numerous public and private entities throughout the country have resumed normal operations. It is time the Social Security Administration reopen as well.

Sincerely,

Chris Jacobs  
Member of Congress

Kevin McCarthy  
House Republican Leader
Jody B. Hice  
Member of Congress

Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress

Bill Posey  
Member of Congress

William R. Timmons IV  
Member of Congress

Greg Pence  
Member of Congress

Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress

Brian J. Mast  
Member of Congress

Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress

Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress

Jim Hagedorn  
Member of Congress
Ted Budd
Member of Congress

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress

Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley
Member of Congress

Van Taylor
Member of Congress

Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress

Austin Scott
Member of Congress

Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress

Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Member of Congress

Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress
Roger Williams
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

Mark E. Green, MD
Member of Congress

Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress

Thomas P. Tiffany
Member of Congress

Fred Keller
Member of Congress

Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress

Ralph Norman
Member of Congress

Tim Burchett
Member of Congress

Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress
Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress

Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress

Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

David G. Valadao
Member of Congress

John W. Rose
Member of Congress

David Schweikert
Member of Congress

Lance Gooden
Member of Congress

Tim Walberg
Member of Congress

Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress
Mark E. Amodei  
Member of Congress

Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress

Yvette Herrell  
Member of Congress

Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress

Sam Graves  
Member of Congress

Mary E. Miller  
Member of Congress

Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress

Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress

Burgess Owens  
Member of Congress

CC: Ralph de Juliis, President, National Council of SSA Field Operations Locals