

Social Security Administration

The so-called Department of Government Efficiency plans to fire more than 7,000 Social Security Administration employees and eliminate critical phone services for beneficiaries. DOGE claims this haphazard slashing of benefits experts and customer service will root out fraud and waste, and increase efficiency. But a look at facts reveals a different story. DOGE is planning to fire SSA employees responsible for everything from processing Americans' checks, answering customer service calls and operating field offices across the U.S.

Does closing local Social Security offices that help process claims help root out fraud?

Does getting Social Security benefits to our seniors and most vulnerable on time sound like waste?

Does increasing wait times in customer service lines due to downsizing increase efficiency?

Of course not.

While DOGE claims to be bringing greater “efficiency” to government, slapdash actions like this are reckless and just plain stupid. Worse, these cuts put in danger the financial security of families across the country.

To make matters worse, five out of eight SSA Regional Commissioners are stepping down, and the number of regional offices will likely be cut from 10 to 4. With these massive staffing cuts and office closures, it could mean more Americans get sicker, go hungry, and get their checks far too late. Seniors and people with disabilities may have to wait **over two and a half years** to be awarded their earned benefits.

These cuts will crush our seniors and most vulnerable. “Ultimately, you’re going to see the system collapse and an interruption of benefits,” said **former Social Security Commissioner Martin O’Malley**. “I believe you will see that within the next 30 to 90 days.”

Even the new head of the agency acknowledged to his senior staff that the DOGE team “will make mistakes.” That means putting monthly checks for our nation’s elderly at risk.

How is any of this efficient?

Current Social Security Administration Employee, *an attorney who works on disability applications and who spoke on condition of anonymity out of concern that speaking publicly could jeopardize his job at the agency said:*

“We are already short-staffed as it is.”

“Right now, we are working on applications generally from 2023-ish,” he noted. But, he added, a significant workforce reduction could mean that “easily the wait times will be extended by one year.”

Source: CBS News

DEEP CUTS

- ▶ **Over 12%** of Social Security Administration Staff will be cut
- ▶ SSA staff is already at the lowest level in 50 years
- ▶ **6 of the 10** regional offices will be shut down and DOGE plans to shutter **47 field offices**.

DEEP IMPACTS

- ▶ Social Security serves over **73 million** retired and disabled beneficiaries every month
- ▶ The SSA processes **9 million** applications for benefits each year
- ▶ Each year **over 30 million people** visit their 1,200 field offices for in-person support