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SCHAKOWSKY ENCOURAGES CONSTITUENTS TO USE ONLINE CALCULATOR TO DETERMINE THEIR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS UNDER BUSH PROPOSAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. - U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) today continued her efforts to provide her constituents with [facts](#) about President Bush's proposed Social Security privatization plan.

□ **Schakowsky unveiled an [online calculator on her webpage](#) that visitors can use to determine their Social Security benefits under privatization.□ For example, a worker who is born in 1985 and who earns an annual average salary of \$50,000 would receive \$28,260 in annual Social Security retirement benefits under current law.□ Under the President's privatization scheme, the same individual would get \$18,199 annually, a cut of more than \$10,000 each year.□ That figure is a combination of Social Security benefits and private accounts.□□□**

□ **"Arming the American people with the facts about President Bush's Social Security privatization scheme is our best weapon to defend against Republican plans to destroy it.□ It is going to take more than a PR campaign by President Bush to convince the American people that cutting their Social Security benefits and saddling them with more than \$5 trillion in debt over the next 20 years in the right public policy," Schakowsky said.□□**

She continued, "Voters are rejecting President Bush's vision for Social Security today and they will continue to reject it tomorrow.□ The American people understand that Social Security faces some long-term challenges. But they also understand that Democrats and Republicans must work together to find the right solution to strengthen, not privatize, Social Security."

□ **Democrats, including Schakowsky, are working to counter President Bush's taxpayer-funded nationwide PR tour designed to bolster support for private accounts in Social Security and have held town hall meeting in their Congressional Districts.□□ In Chicago, Schakowsky organized a town hall that was attended by 700 people who expressed great concern about the President's plan to privatize Social Security.□□ U.S.**

Senators Dick Durbin and Barack Obama joined Schakowsky at the town hall meeting.