Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

I am writing to ask for your help. Our union is under attack by the Trump Administration and the management at the Social Security Administration and thousands of employees will be forced pay the price. As we try to negotiate a new contract with SSA, the agency is advancing proposals that would effectively eliminate the union. No longer would we be able to represent employees who fall victim to racial or sexual discrimination or who are given a poor performance review or face termination. No longer would the union be able to inform Congress of unfair labor practices at SSA or misguided policies that hurt employees and beneficiaries.

SSA’s contract proposals are not only grossly unfair to workers, they are also illegal as determined by a federal district court. The agency is pushing to radically curtail time granted to union representatives to assist workers filing grievance and to bar performance appraisals and awards and disciplinary removals from the negotiated grievance procedure and arbitration. Both of these proposals were declared illegal by the federal district court.

We need your help. Congress must hold hearings on this dire situation immediately. Congress must consider withholding funds from SSA until it agrees to return to the bargaining table and negotiate a new contract in good faith. As a member of Congress, I am asking you to do what you can to help us in this fight. This is not only an attack on workers at SSA, it is the first in a series of attacks against all federal employees represented by unions and an attack on the labor movement in general.

Congress has the power to solve this. We are asking you to use that power in defense of our workers. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,