




Among GOP Candidates, Not a Single Friend of Social Security

		Called Social Security A Fraud, Ponzi Scheme, or Unconstitutional	Wants to Raise the Social Security Retirement Age	Supports Some Form of Privatization
GINGRICH			?*	
PAUL			?*	
ROMNEY				
SANTORUM		?		

*Has not advocated raising the retirement age because they support even more radical privatization proposals

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NEWT GINGRICH	<p>“It is a fraud and a lie the way that Congress deals with Social Security.” —Cain-Gingrich Debate, November 5, 2011</p>	No position stated.	<p>“Any candidate who is not prepared to give younger Americans the right to choose [a private account] has no serious plan for Social Security.” —Cain-Gingrich Debate, November 5, 2011</p>
RON PAUL	<p>“Technically, [Social Security is unconstitutional]. ...There’s no authority [in the Constitution for it].” —(Fox News Sunday, May 15, 2011)</p>	<p>No direct position, but Paul sees it as irrelevant since he would dismantle the entire program and allow people to opt-out of Social Security. —(MSNBC Interview, April 27, 2011)</p>	<p>“But I want to privatize the retirement funds and put the responsibility on the individual.” —(CNN Situation Room Interview, September 8, 2010)</p>
MITT ROMNEY	<p>“There simply is no [trust] ‘fund’ safely invested somewhere... To put it in a nutshell, the American people have been effectively defrauded out of their Social Security. ... Let’s look at what would happen if someone in the private sector did a similar thing... They would go to jail. But what has happened to the people responsible for the looming bankruptcy of Social Security? They keep returning to congress every two years.” —No Apology, 2010, pp. 172-3</p>	<p>“Alternatively, we could gradually raise the retirement age. This does have a certain logic to it...” —No Apology, 2010, p. 173</p>	<p>“One thing that [President Bush] proposed, and it’s a good idea, is to take some of that money, or all of that surplus [Social Security] money and allow people to have a personal account.” —Town Hall, 6/5/2007</p>
RICK SANTORUM	No position stated.	<p>“I proposed [raising the retirement age] back in 1994, and I think that’s an option that has to be on the table.” —(Meet the Press, June 12, 2011)</p> <p>“We’re in the middle of a phase-up [in the retirement age] to age 67...We need to continue to do that.” —(Remarks at Lancaster, SC, September 13, 2011)</p>	<p>“Personal retirement accounts provide individuals—not the government—with control and ownership. And they hold the promise of a greater return for future generations than what they are promised by today’s Social Security system.” —(The Hill, March 1, 2005)</p>