## CONTENTS

## TABLES

## APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

*For payment to the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as provided under sections 201(m) and 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act, $15,000,000.*

Note.—A full-year 2024 appropriation for this account was not enacted at the time the Budget was prepared; therefore, the Budget assumes this account is operating under the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024, and Other Extensions Act (Division A of Public Law 118-15, as amended). The amounts included for 2024 reflect the annualized level provided by the continuing resolution.

## GENERAL STATEMENT

The Payments to the Social Security Trust Funds (PTF) account provides Federal fund payments to the Social Security trust funds for several distinct activities. The purpose of each requested payment is to put the trust funds in the same financial position they would have been in had they not borne the cost of certain benefits or administrative expenses chargeable to general revenues. This account includes payments requiring an annual appropriation and payments made to the trust funds under permanent indefinite authority.

### ANNUAL APPROPRIATION

The annual PTF appropriation provides reimbursement to the Social Security trust funds for non-trust fund activities. These activities include pension reform and interest on unnegotiated checks. Listed below is the estimated annual appropriation and resulting obligations for FY 2025.

The FY 2025 annual appropriation request is $4 million more than the FY 2024 level because of a rise in the actual and projected interest rates on new issues to the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) trust funds, which results in higher interest adjustments due to the trust funds from Unnegotiated Checks. The obligations reported below include CIRHBA activity, funded from unobligated balances carried forward from prior years. These funds, provided in FYs 1996 and 1997, remain available until expended.

Social Security checks, like those issued by other Federal agencies, are negotiable for only 12 months from their date of issue. Under the "Limited Payability" procedure, the value of unnegotiated checks issued on or after October 1, 1989, is credited directly to the trust funds from Treasury's general fund when the checks are canceled. These funds do not pass through the Payments to Social Security Trust Funds account, but the interest adjustments do pass through this account.

Section 1131 of the Social Security Act requires the Commissioner of Social Security to furnish information regarding deferred vested pension rights to pension plan participants (and their dependents or survivors). It permits the administrative expenses of carrying out this pension reform work to be funded initially from the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund through SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses and authorizes an annual appropriation of Federal funds to reimburse the OASI Trust Fund.

**Table 1.1—Annual Appropriation and Obligations**
**(In thousands)**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate | *FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Appropriation** | $11,000 | $11,000 | **$15,000** | ***+$4,000*** |

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate | *FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Obligations**[1] | $6,241 | $11,050 | **$15,050** | ***+$4,000*** |

## PERMANENT INDEFINITE AUTHORITY

Amounts not subject to the annual appropriation include: (1) receipts from Federal income taxation of Social Security benefits; (2) Federal Insurance Contribution Act (FICA) and Self-Employment Contribution Act (SECA) tax credits; (3) reimbursement for Federal employee union administrative expenses; and (4) reimbursement for the loss in FICA tax revenue resulting from the payroll tax holiday provided by the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 and extended by the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011. The permanent appropriation provides that the trust funds be credited for each of these revenue items.

### Taxation of Social Security Benefits

The Social Security Amendments of 1983 provide for taxation of up to one-half of Social Security benefits in excess of certain income thresholds. The Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1993, P.L. 103-66, amended this provision so that up to 85 percent of benefits could be subject to taxation. The additional amounts collected from this 1993 provision are paid to the Hospital Insurance (HI) Trust Fund; no additional income is due to the Social Security trust funds resulting from the enactment of the 1993 law.

Section 733 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, P.L. 103-465, also increased the taxable portion of nonresident aliens' Social Security benefits from 50 percent to 85 percent. The Offices of the General Counsel at SSA and at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, agreed that the additional income resulting from the law should go to the Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) trust funds as opposed to the HI Trust Fund.

The taxes are collected as Federal income taxes; subsequently, an equivalent payment to the Social Security trust funds is made from the general funds of the Treasury. Transfers of estimated aggregate tax liabilities arising from Social Security benefits of U.S. citizens are made quarterly and then adjusted as actual receipts are known. The estimated income from these taxes is $55,582 million in FY 2024 and $60,536 million in FY 2025 from U.S. citizens; the taxes imposed on aliens are withheld from benefit payments and will generate estimated income of $303 million in FY 2024 and $323 million in FY 2025. The estimates for taxation of benefits reflect corresponding growth related to benefit levels and the beneficiary population.

[1]The obligations include Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits Act activity, funded from unobligated balances carried forward from prior years. These funds, provided in FYs 1996 and 1997, remain available until expended to reimburse the trust funds.

## Payments to the Social Security Trust Funds

### FICA and SECA Tax Credits

The Social Security Amendments of 1983 also provided for the granting of FICA and SECA tax credits to individuals. The tax credits are granted at the time the individual is taxed and are funded by the general funds of the Treasury through reimbursement to the trust funds. The FICA tax credit applies only to wages earned in calendar year 1984. The SECA tax credit applies from calendar year 1984 through calendar year 1989. There are small periodic adjustments made due to tax credits being applied retroactively.

### Reimbursement for Employee Union Expenses

In addition to taxation of benefits and tax credits, the PTF account includes reimbursement to the trust funds from general funds, including interest, for certain administrative expenses incurred in support of Federal employee union activities. In FYs 2024 and 2025, $10 million will be temporarily funded by SSA's Limitation on Administrative Expenses (LAE) appropriation prior to reimbursement from general funds.

### Reimbursement for Payroll Tax Holiday

P.L. 111-312, the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, reduced employees' payroll contributions from 6.2 percent to 4.2 percent for calendar year 2011. P.L. 112-78, the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011, amended P.L. 111-312 to extend the reduced payroll contributions through February 29, 2012. On February 22, 2012, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-96) extended the reduced rate through December 31, 2012. The general funds reimburse the trust funds for this loss in tax revenue. While the law has expired, we expect that small periodic adjustments for prior years will continue to occur in future years.

## BUDGETARY RESOURCES

The FY 2025 annual appropriation request for PTF is $15,000,000. We expect to make $60,884,050,000 in payments to the trust funds in FY 2025, including amounts appropriated under permanent indefinite authority.

**Table 1.2—Amounts Available for Obligation[1]**
**(In thousands)**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Annual Appropriation** | **$11,000** | **$11,000** | **$15,000** |
| **Permanent Appropriation** | **50,795,604** | **$55,895,000** | **$60,869,000** |
| Total Appropriation | $50,806,604 | $55,906,000 | $60,884,000 |
| Unobligated Balance, Start-of-Year | $12,822 | $12,822 | $12,772 |
| **Subtotal Budgetary Resources** | **$50,819,426** | **$55,918,822** | **$60,896,772** |
| **Obligations** | **$50,801,845** | **$55,906,050** | **$60,884,050** |
| Unobligated Balance, End-of-Year | $12,822 | $12,772 | $12,722 |
| Unobligated Balance, Lapsing | $4,759 | $0 | $0 |

The "Start-of-Year" and "End-of-Year" unobligated balances represent funds appropriated for the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits Act (CIRHBA) in FYs 1996 and 1997 and made available until expended. The lapsed unobligated balance represents the amount of the annual appropriation not obligated in the current year.

[1] Totals may not add due to rounding.

## BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OBLIGATIONS BY ACTIVITY

The table below displays the budget authority and obligations for each of the PTF activities funded by the annual appropriation. Prior year unobligated balances fund CIRHBA obligations.

**Table 1.3—New Budget Authority & Obligations, Annual Authority[1]**
**(In thousands)**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Appropriation** | | | |
| Pension Reform | $6,000 | $6,000 | $6,000 |
| Unnegotiated Checks | $5,000 | $5,000 | $9,000 |
| Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| **Total Annual Appropriation** | **$11,000** | **$11,000** | **$15,000** |
| **Obligations** | | | |
| Pension Reform | $2,430 | $6,000 | $6,000 |
| Unnegotiated Checks | $3,811 | $5,000 | $9,000 |
| Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits | $0 | $50 | $50 |
| **Total Obligations** | **$6,241** | **$11,050** | **$15,050** |

[1] Totals may not add due to rounding.

The table below displays budget authority and obligations for the PTF activities not subject to the annual appropriation. This includes taxation of benefits, FICA and SECA tax credits, reimbursement for certain union administrative expenses, and reimbursement for the employee payroll tax holiday. The actual amount appropriated for these activities is determined by the actual amount collected from, or to be reimbursed for, each activity.

**Table 1.4—Budget Authority and Obligations, Permanent Indefinite Authority (In thousands)**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Appropriation** | | | |
| Reimb. for Union Administrative Expenses | $9,784 | $10,000 | $10,000 |
| Employee Payroll Tax Holiday[1] | $140 | $0 | $0 |
| Taxation of Benefits, U.S. | $50,503,978 | $55,582,000 | $60,536,000 |
| Taxation of Benefits, Nonresident Alien | $281,700 | $303,000 | $323,000 |
| FICA Tax Credits | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| SECA Tax Credits | $2 | $0 | $0 |
| **Total Permanent Appropriation** | **$50,795,604** | **$55,895,000** | **$60,869,000** |
| **Obligations** | | | |
| Reimb. for Union Administrative Expenses | $9,784 | $10,000 | $10,000 |
| Employee Payroll Tax Holiday | $140 | $0 | $0 |
| Taxation of Benefits, U.S. | $50,503,978 | $55,582,000 | $60,536,000 |
| Taxation of Benefits, Nonresident Alien | $281,700 | $303,000 | $323,000 |
| FICA Tax Credits | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| SECA Tax Credits | $2 | $0 | $0 |
| **Total Obligations** | **$50,795,604** | **$55,895,000** | **$60,869,000** |

[1] P.L. 111-312, the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, reduced employees' payroll contributions from 6.2 percent to 4.2 percent for calendar year 2011. P.L. 112-78, the Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011 amended P.L. 111-312 to extend the reduced payroll contributions through February 29, 2012. On February 22, 2012, the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-96) extended the reduced rate through December 31, 2012. The general funds reimburse the trust funds for the loss in tax revenue (Title VI, Sec 601). While the law has expired, we expect additional adjustments for prior years will continue to occur.

## OBLIGATIONS BY OBJECT CLASS

The table below displays the obligations by object class for the total PTF account (annually and permanently appropriated funds). Other services include pension reform, unnegotiated checks, coal industry retiree health benefits, reimbursement for union administrative expenses, and FICA and SECA tax credits. Financial transfers are the combination of U.S. taxation on benefits and nonresident alien taxation on benefits.

**Table 1.5—Obligations by Object**
**(In thousands)**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Other Services** | $16,027 | $21,050 | $25,050 |
| **Financial Transfers** | $50,785,678 | $55,885,000 | $60,859,000 |
| **Financial Transfers: Employee Payroll Tax Holiday** | $140 | $0 | $0 |
| **Total Obligations** | **$50,801,845** | **$55,906,050** | **$60,884,050** |

## BACKGROUND

### AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION

The Social Security Act sections described below authorize the PTF account.

**Table 1.6—Authorizing Legislation**
**(In thousands)**

| | Amount Authorized | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pension Reform: S.S. Act, Section 1131(b)(2) | Indefinite | $6,000 | $6,000 | $6,000 |
| Unnegotiated Checks: S.S. Act, Section 201(m); Social Security Amendments of 1983, Section 152 | Indefinite | $5,000 | $5,000 | $9,000 |
| Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits: Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Sections 9704 and 9706; Energy Policy Act of 1992, Section 19141[1] | Indefinite | $0 | $0 | $0 |
| **Subtotal Annual PTF Appropriation** | | **$11,000** | **$11,000** | **$15,000** |
| Reimbursement for Union Administrative Expenses: FY 2002 Social Security Appropriations Act | Permanent Indefinite | $9,784 | $10,000 | $10,000 |
| Employee Payroll Tax Holiday: P.L. 111-312, Section 601, As Amended By Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act: P.L. 112-78 | Permanent Indefinite | $140 | $0 | $0 |
| Taxation of Benefits, U.S.: Social Security Amendments of 1983, Section 121 | Permanent Indefinite | $50,503,978 | $55,582,000 | $60,536,000 |
| Taxation of Benefits, Nonresident Aliens: Social Security Amendments of 1983, Section 121 | Permanent Indefinite | $281,700 | $303,000 | $323,000 |
| FICA/SECA Tax Credits: Social Security Amendments of 1983, Section 124(b) | Permanent Indefinite | $2 | $0 | $0 |
| **Subtotal Permanent PTF Appropriation** | | **$50,795,604** | **$55,895,000** | **$60,869,000** |
| **Total Appropriation** | | **$50,806,604** | **$55,906,000** | **$60,884,000** |

[1] We do not request additional funds because the balance of the $10,000,000 per year appropriated in FYs 1996 and 1997 remains available until expended to reimburse the trust funds.

## APPROPRIATION HISTORY

The table below displays our annual appropriation request, amounts approved by the House and Senate, and the amount Congress ultimately appropriated. This does not include amounts appropriated under permanent authority.

### Table 1.7—Appropriation History Table

| Fiscal Year | Budget Estimate to Congress | House Committee Passed | Senate Committee Passed | Enacted Appropriation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2015 | $16,400,000 | $16,400,000[1] | - - -[2] | $16,400,000[3] |
| 2016 | $20,400,000 | $20,400,000[4] | $20,400,000[5] | $11,400,000[6] |
| 2017 | $11,400,000 | $11,400,000[7] | $11,400,000[8] | $11,400,000[9] |
| 2018 | $11,400,000 | $11,400,000[10] | $11,400,000[11] | $11,400,000[12] |
| 2019 | $11,000,000 | $11,000,000[13] | $11,000,000[14] | $11,000,000[15] |
| 2020 | $11,000,000 | $11,000,000[16] | - - -[17] | $11,000,000[18] |
| 2021 | $11,000,000 | $11,000,000[19] | - - -[20] | $11,000,000[21] |
| 2022 | $11,000,000 | $11,000,000[22] | - - -[23] | $11,000,000[24] |
| 2023 | $11,000,000 | $11,000,000[25] | - - -[26] | $11,000,000[27] |
| 2024 | $10,000,000 | $10,000,000[28] | $10,000,000[29] | |
| 2025 | $15,000,000 | | | |

[1] H.R. 83.
[2] The Senate Committee on Appropriations did not report a bill.
[3] Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (P.L. 113-235).
[4] H.R. 3020.
[5] S. 1695.
[6] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016 (P.L. 114-113).
[7] H.R. 5926.
[8] S. 3040.
[9] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (P.L 115-31).
[10] H.R. 3358.
[11] S. 1771.
[12] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L 115-141).
[13] H.R. 6470.
[14] S. 3158.
[15] Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L 115-245).
[16] H.R. 2740.
[17] The Senate Committee on Appropriations did not report a bill.

[18] Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020 in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94).
[19] H.R. 7614.
[20] The Senate Committee on Appropriations did not report a bill.
[21] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260).
[22] H.R. 4502
[23] The Senate Committee on Appropriations did not report a bill
[24] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (P.L. 117-103).
[25] H.R. 8295
[26] The Senate Committee on Appropriations did not report a bill.
[27] Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328)
[28] H.R. 5894. The House bill was passed at the subcommittee level and did not go to the full committee.
[29] S. 2624.

## PENSION REFORM

**Authorizing Legislation:** Section 1131(b)(2) of the Social Security Act.

### PURPOSE AND METHOD OF OPERATION

The purpose of this payment is to reimburse the OASI Trust Fund for the cost of certain pension reform activities chargeable to Federal funds.

**Table 1.8—Pension Reform: Budget Authority**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate | *FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Budget Authority** | $6,000,000 | $6,000,000 | **$6,000,000** | *$0* |

................................................
The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, P.L. 93-406 (Pension Reform Act, also known as ERISA) established section 1131 of the Social Security Act. This requires the Commissioner of Social Security to furnish information regarding deferred vested pension rights to pension plan participants (and their dependents or survivors), either upon request or automatically upon application for retirement, survivors, or disability insurance benefits.

Each time an employee leaves employment that earned him or her vested rights to a pension, we receive related information from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in either paper or electronic format. We control, scan (using optical character recognition), and, if necessary, key the paper forms and transfer the data to the ERISA mainframe system. We add these data, along with electronic data received from the IRS to the ERISA Master Files after the name is verified against the NUMIDENT (SSN record) database. Each month, we compare an activity file of new benefit applications to the ERISA Master Files. We send an ERISA notice of pension plan eligibility to individuals included in both the activity file and the ERISA Master Files. This notice includes the information the worker needs to contact the pension plan administrator. We also resolve exceptions and respond to inquiries from employers and the public.

Section 1131(b)(1) permits the administrative expenses of carrying out this pension reform work to be funded initially from the OASI Trust Fund through our LAE account. Section 1131(b)(2) authorizes an annual appropriation of Federal funds to reimburse the OASI Trust Fund. We began to incur pension reform administrative expenses in FY 1977.

**Table 1.9—Pension Reform: Obligations**

| Fiscal Year | Obligations |
|---|---|
| FY 2015 | $858,477 |
| FY 2016 | $1,421,941 |
| FY 2017 | $881,832 |
| FY 2018 | $1,582,104 |
| FY 2019 | $1,000,827 |
| FY 2020 | $862,908 |
| FY 2021 | $2,643,759 |
| FY 2022 | $1,918,944 |
| FY 2023 | $2,430,320 |
| FY 2024 Estimate | $6,000,000 |
| **FY 2025 Estimate** | **$6,000,000** |

## RATIONALE FOR BUDGET REQUEST

The FY 2025 budget requests $6,000,000 to reimburse the OASI Trust Fund for the cost of carrying out our responsibilities under the Pension Reform Act. The FY 2025 request is the same as the full-year continuing resolution level for FY 2024. The table below summarizes the recent trend of pension coverage report receipts:

**Table 1.10—Receipts from Pension Coverage Reports**

| Fiscal Year | Pension Coverage Report Receipts |
|---|---|
| FY 2015 | 6,310,851 |
| FY 2016 | 7,964,997 |
| FY 2017 | 7,061,212 |
| FY 2018 | 7,243,179 |
| FY 2019 | 6,414,367 |
| FY 2020 | 6,706,157 |
| FY 2021 | 7,091,453 |
| FY 2022 | 7,529,828 |
| **FY 2023** | **7,753,653** |

## UNNEGOTIATED CHECKS

**Authorizing Legislation:** Section 201(m) of the Social Security Act and Section 152 of P.L. 98-21.

### PURPOSE AND METHOD OF OPERATION

The purpose of this payment is to reimburse the OASI and DI Trust Funds for the value of interest on benefit checks cashed after 6 months or subsequently canceled.

**Table 1.11—Unnegotiated Checks: Budget Authority**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate | *FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Budget Authority** | $5,000,000 | $5,000,000 | **$9,000,000** | *+$4,000,000* |

This activity was originally established to reimburse the trust funds for uncashed benefit checks and accrued interest. Beginning October 1, 1989, Social Security checks, like those issued by other Federal agencies, are negotiable for only 12 months from their date of issue under the provisions of the Competitive Equality Banking Act (CEBA) of 1987 (P.L. 100-86). In the 14th month after issue, the Department of the Treasury prepares a listing of checks outstanding from each agency, cancels those checks, and refunds the value of checks canceled to the authorizing agencies. Under this "Limited Payability" procedure, the value of unnegotiated checks issued on or after October 1, 1989, are credited directly to the trust funds from Treasury's general fund when the checks are canceled, pursuant to P.L. 100-86. These funds do not pass through the PTF account. However, the interest adjustment must be paid through this account because CEBA made no provision for it.

This appropriation funds the estimated ongoing level of activity and represents the value of interest for unnegotiated OASDI benefit checks.

**Table 1.12—Unnegotiated Checks: Obligations**

| Fiscal Year | Obligations |
|---|---|
| FY 2015 | $2,989,099 |
| FY 2016 | $2,091,901 |
| FY 2017 | $2,028,629 |
| FY 2018 | $2,402,793 |
| FY 2019 | $2,941,121 |
| FY 2020 | $2,575,849 |
| FY 2021 | $1,523,486 |
| FY 2022 | $1,894,718 |
| FY 2023 | $3,810,668 |
| FY 2024 Estimate | $5,000,000 |
| **FY 2025 Estimate** | **$9,000,000** |

The actual interest reflects the ongoing shift of benefit payments from paper checks to direct deposit. On December 21, 2010, the Department of the Treasury published a final rule amending 31 Code of Federal Regulations Part 208 to require recipients of Federal benefits and nontax payments to receive their payments by electronic funds transfer. People who apply for Social Security benefits on or after May 1, 2011, receive their payments electronically. Many people who previously received Federal benefit checks before May 1, 2011 have switched to electronic payments. As a result, the final rule has decreased the volume of unnegotiated benefit checks, and we expect this trend to continue. Benefits paid via direct deposit bypass the mechanism in which there is the possibility of an uncashed check. However, the effect of the growth in direct deposit participation on unnegotiated check interest is somewhat offset by increases in the number of beneficiaries and in the average monthly benefit payments. The following table summarizes the recent trend in the percentage of OASDI beneficiaries enrolled in the direct deposit payment program.

**Table 1.13—Direct Deposit Participation Rate**

| | Direct Deposit Participation Rate |
|---|---|
| FY 2015 | 99% |
| FY 2016 | 99% |
| FY 2017 | 99% |
| FY 2018 | 99% |
| FY 2019 | 99% |
| FY 2020 | 99% |
| FY 2021 | 99% |
| FY 2022 | 99% |

## RATIONALE FOR BUDGET REQUEST

The FY 2025 request is for $9,000,000 to reimburse the OASDI trust funds for the value of interest on unnegotiated checks. The FY 2025 request is $4,000,000 more than the FY 2024 level. We increased the request because of a substantial rise in the actual and projected interest rates on new issues to the OASDI trust funds which results in higher interest adjustments due to the trust funds from Unnegotiated Checks.

**Table 1.14—Unnegotiated Checks: Budget Authority by Trust Fund**

| | FY 2025 Estimate |
|---|---|
| OASI Trust Fund | $6,000,000 |
| DI Trust Fund | $3,000,000 |
| **Total** | **$9,000,000** |

## COAL INDUSTRY RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS

**Authorizing Legislation**: Sections 9704 and 9706 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as amended by section 19141 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

### PURPOSE AND METHOD OF OPERATION

The purpose of this payment is to reimburse the OASDI Trust Funds for work carried out under section 19141 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-486), which established the CIRHBA of 1992.

**Table 1.15—Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefits: Obligations**

| | FY 2023 Actual | FY 2024 Estimate | FY 2025 Estimate | *FY 2024 to FY 2025 Change* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **New Budget Authority** | $0 | $0 | $0 | *$0* |
| **Obligations** | $0 | $50,000 | **$50,000** | *$0* |

CIRHBA combined two existing United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) pension plans into a single fund and required that certain existing coalmine operators pay health benefit premiums for the new combined plan. The law directed the Commissioner of Social Security to:

- Search the earnings records of the group of retired coal miners covered by the combined plan;
- Determine which retirees should be assigned to which mine operators;
- Notify the involved mine operators of the names and Social Security numbers of eligible beneficiaries who have been assigned to them;
- Process appeals from operators who believe that assignments have been made incorrectly; and
- Compute the premiums based on a formula established in the Act.

## PROGRESS TO DATE

We completed reviews on all of the retired miners covered under the provisions of the 1992 CIRHBA. We devoted considerable time and resources to implement and comply with the Coal Act provisions of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-432). All court cases challenging SSA's involvement in the Coal Act are now closed. We have also completed our obligation to provide yearly data on miner assignments to the UMWA Combined Benefit Fund. Our Office of the Chief Actuary continues to compute the beneficiary premiums on a yearly basis.

This account provides general fund reimbursement to the trust funds to the extent that the LAE account advances funds for SSA to carry out this work. We do not request additional funds for FY 2025 because the balance of the $10,000,000 per year appropriated in FY 1996 and in FY 1997 remains available until expended to reimburse the trust funds.