

SSI Has Been Cut

By Ben Rockwell

Our state legislature and governor have finally gone and done it. They have cut one half a month's income from the lowest-income persons in the state, those with disabilities and seniors living on SSI payments. What that means is no Christmas for those individuals, or no money to pay the co-pays for their necessary medications, or no telephone, or no TV, or no more new cloths, or no more eating out with friends, and no entertainment--other than playing solitaire until the cards wear out.

The legislators took their own pay increases then turned around and stole food and medications--even Christmas--from our poorest seniors and persons with disabilities. Is this the great compassionate country that takes care of our citizens who are reaching the last years of their "productive" lives? We must rectify the injustice done here. These citizens have been living on 60% of the purchasing power of those who were on SSI in 1973. Now 50% of a month's income per year has been taken away.

Before the elections, all the legislators tried to tell us they were compassionate and caring. Where did all that compassion and caring go? What are we going to do to fight this injustice?

And where do we go from here? Has it come to a Nazi state, in which seniors and persons with disabilities are the first to suffer, looked on as simply worthless? Rather than suffering alone, undefended and facing slow and painful death, shall we rise up and fight these injustices?

We need to write and call the legislators and Governor Arnold "The Terminator" Schwarzenegger. Tell them these state cuts to SSI are unconscionable. We shall not see our citizens suffer at the hands of the rich out of control legislators and state department heads.

Please help our poorest and most vulnerable citizens to have some quality of life.

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