



## SOCIAL SECURITY

The Commissioner

January 27, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing to provide you with our agency's fiscal year (FY) 2014 report on official time and expenses for union representational activities. This annual report complies with the requirements in the House Committee on Appropriations' Conference Committee Report 105-205.

In FY 2014, the union representational activities total agency costs were \$15.1 million. As required by our annual appropriations act, the general fund of the United States Treasury will reimburse the Social Security trust funds, with interest, for the portion of expenses attributable to the trust funds.

I hope you find the enclosed report informative. If there are any questions about this report, your staff may contact Pete Spencer, Deputy Commissioner for Budget, Finance, Quality, and Management, at (410) 965-2475.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. Colvin  
Acting Commissioner

Enclosure

**Social Security Administration Report on Expenditures for Union Activities**

The Conference Committee Report accompanying the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies' fiscal year (FY) 1998 appropriations (Report 105-205) addressed the subject of support for union activities. The Committee requested that all departments and agencies report annually on expenditures for union representational activities. Our FY 2014 information is included in the table below:

Official Time for Union Representational Activities	Fiscal Year 2014
Hours of official time spent on union activities	246,893
Employees who used official time on a part-time basis	1,508
Employees who spent 100 percent of their time on union activities	15
	Dollars in Millions
Dollar Value of Official Time (e.g., salary and benefits)	\$12.9
Travel and Per Diem	\$0.7
Office Space, Telephones, and Supplies	\$1.3
Interest	\$0.1
Arbitration Expenses	\$0.1
Total Expenses	\$15.1

The Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute and Social Security Administration's labor contracts with the American Federation of Government Employees, the National Federation of Federal Employees, the National Treasury Employees' Union, and the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers obligate the agency to pay for certain costs. These costs include salaries, travel and per diem expenses, office space, telephone, and arbitration costs for union representational activities conducted on official time. Union representatives cannot use official time for internal union business (such as soliciting membership, conducting elections, or collecting dues). Consistent with language in appropriations acts, the general fund of the United States Treasury will reimburse the Social Security trust funds, with interest, for the portion of these expenses attributable to the trust funds.