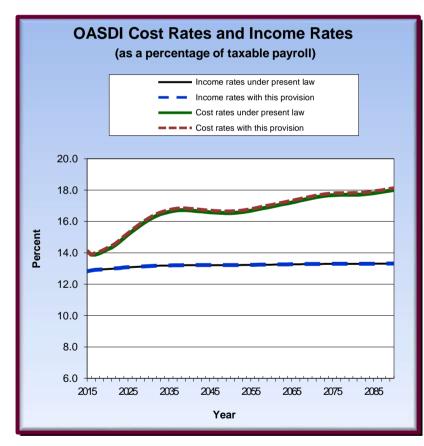
Summary Measures and Graphs Category of Change: Family Members

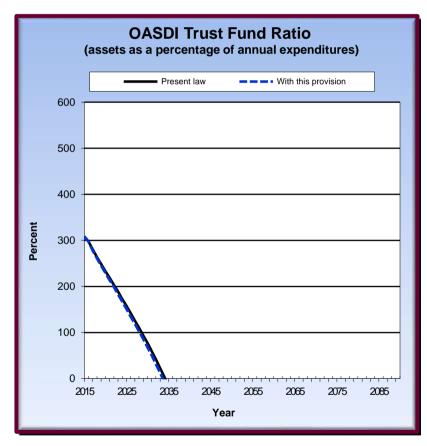
Proposed Provision: Establish an alternative benefit for a surviving spouse. For the surviving spouse, the alternative benefit would equal 75 percent of the sum of the survivor's own worker benefit and the deceased worker's PIA (including any actuarial reductions or delayed retirement credits). If the deceased worker died before becoming entitled, use the age 62 actuarial reduction if deceased before age 62, or the applicable actuarial reduction/DRC for entitlement at the age of death if deceased after 62. The alternative benefit would not exceed the PIA of a hypothetical earner who earns the SSA average wage index (AWI) every year, and who becomes eligible for retired-worker benefits in the same year in which the deceased worker became entitled to worker benefits or died (if before entitlement). The alternative benefit would be paid only if more than the current-law benefit. This benefit would be available to surviving spouses on the rolls at the beginning of 2017 and those becoming eligible after 2017.

Present Law				
[percent of payroll]				
Long-Range	Annual			
Actuarial	Balance in			
Balance	75th Year			
-2.68	-4.65			

Change From Present Law [percent of payroll]				
Long-Range	Annual			
Actuarial	Balance in			
Balance	75th Year			
-0.11	-0.11			

Shortfall Eliminated				
Long-Range Annual				
Actuarial	Balance in			
Balance	75th Year			
-4%	-2%			





Estimates based on the intermediate assumptions of the 2015 Trustees Report

Office of the Chief Actuary, Social Security September 1, 2015

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