

April 15, 2024

Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs **Regulations and Reports Clearance Staff** Social Security Administration 6401 Security Boulevard Baltimore, Maryland 21235-6401

Re: Use of Electronic Payroll Data To Improve Program Administration **Docket No:** SSA-2016-0039

Dear Director Lipsky,

These comments are submitted on behalf of the National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives (NOSSCR), a specialized bar association for attorneys and advocates who represent Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claimants throughout the adjudication process and in federal court.

NOSSCR supports these proposed changes to use electronic payroll data to improve program accuracy and reduce overpayments. We encourage the agency to consider the following points when implementing the final rule:

- 1. When beneficiaries participate in this exchange, the agency should always find that beneficiaries are "without fault" for overpayments created by inaccurate or incomplete reporting from employers or the payroll data provider, and these "without fault" overpayments should always be waived.
- 2. The agency should flip their proposed opt-in policy to an opt-out policy so that a greater population of beneficiaries will benefit from this modernization improvement.
- 3. If the agency intends to stay with an opt-in policy, the agency should consider additional electronic and verbal opportunities for beneficiaries to authorize the agency to obtain their wage and employment information from a payroll data provider (for example, the agency should research whether consents could be obtained from a wider audience by obtaining them when mySocialSecurity accounts are created and/or accessed).
- 4. Once gathered, the payroll data should be readily available to the beneficiary for review electronically, and the process for disputing any discrepancies should be clearly delineated and available to access verbally and electronically.
- 5. The proposed rules should clearly explain how the agency will marry the gathered payroll data with any work incentive participation and reporting.

We are encouraged by this modernization step and look forward to additional streamlined information-sharing advances in the near future.

Sincerely,

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David Camp Chief Executive Officer