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Dem Leader Blasts Romney for Plan to Privatize Social Security and Cut Senior Benefits

GOP Convention Speaker and Presidential Candidate says Privatize Social Security and Keep the Discussions “Behind closed doors”

(Helena, MT) Democratic Party Chair Dennis McDonald today blasted GOP Presidential candidate Mitt Romney for his support for the Bush-Cheney plan to privatize Social Security and cut benefits for seniors. Romney will address the Montana Republican Party’s convention in Helena this week.

Last week, it was reported that "Romney [praised Bush's idea of personal accounts](#) and said they would make up for some of the expected shortfall in the trust fund. He also said changing the retirement age could be considered, as well as basing the Social Security cost of living adjustment on a different inflation gauge." [New Hampshire Union Leader, 6/7/2007]

“It is wrong to take Montanans’ retirement money and throw it on Wall Street. Folks living in a rural state like Montana understand better than anyone just how critical Social Security is to families and communities. Romney’s plan to privatize Social Security is out of step with the values of rural America. And the fact that Republicans are bringing him to Montana shows how out of step they are with our values” said McDonald.

Romney has also said that "It's really not possible for us to remain a superpower without restructuring our entitlements programs," Romney also says leaders from both political parties will have to come up with a solution in private—without public involvement. "Sitting down, quietly, behind closed doors and having a full and complete discussion of various ways to bring the costs down and to keep it from getting out of control," Romney says.
[Radio Iowa, 8/25/06]

In contrast with Social Security privatizer Mitt Romney, Sen. Max Baucus led the fight to defeat Social Security privatization in the Senate last year. Governor Brian Schweitzer and Sen. Jon Tester also strongly oppose privatization of Social Security.

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