

AFRICAN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SECURITY AND THE ROLE OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Speaker Biographies

Nancy J. Altman is president of Social Security Works and chair of the Strengthen Social Security coalition. Democratic House Leader Nancy Pelosi appointed Altman to a six-year term, starting October 1, 2017, on the Social Security Advisory Board. Altman is the author of *The Battle for Social Security: From FDR's Vision to Bush's Gamble* and *The Truth about Social Security: The Founders' Words Refute Revisionist History, Zombie Lies, and Common Misunderstandings*. From 1983 to 1989, Altman was on the faculty of Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and taught courses on private pensions and Social Security at the Harvard Law School. In 1982, she was Alan Greenspan's assistant in his position as chairman of the bipartisan commission that developed the 1983 Social Security amendments. From 1977 to 1981, she was a legislative assistant to Senator John C. Danforth and advised the Senator on Social Security issues. From 1974 to 1977, she was a tax lawyer with Covington & Burling, where she handled a variety of private pension matters. Altman chairs the board of directors of the Pension Rights Center and is a member of the board of directors of the Alliance for Retired Americans Educational Fund, Institute for America's Future, and Latinos for a Secure Retirement. In the mid-1980s, she was on the organizing committee and the first board of directors of the National Academy of Social Insurance. Altman has a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and a doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Maya Rockey Moore Cummings leads Global Policy Solutions, a Washington, DC-based policy firm that makes policy work for people and their environments. A former adjunct professor in the Women in Politics Institute at American University, she has also served as the vice president of research and programs at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, senior resident scholar at the National Urban League, chief of staff to former Congressman Charles Rangel, professional staff on the House Ways and Means Committee, and as a Congressional Black Caucus Foundation legislative fellow in the office of former Congressman Melvin Watt. Her areas of expertise include health, social insurance, income security, education, women's issues, and youth civic participation. She is the author of *The Political Action Handbook: A How To Guide for the Hip-Hop Generation* and coeditor of *Strengthening Community: Social Insurance in a Diverse America*. Rockey Moore Cummings serves on the board of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and the National Association of Counties and is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. She was named an Aspen Institute Henry Crown Fellow in 2004 and is the recipient of Running Start's 2007 Young Women to Watch Award. She is a regular guest on radio and television shows, including NPR, CNN, *Black Entertainment Television*, *ABC World News Tonight*, and *Fox News*. Her opinions have also been quoted by the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Boston Globe*, *Black America Web*, and *Houston Chronicle*.



Kilolo Kijakazi is an Institute fellow with the Urban Institute. She develops collaborative partnerships with organizations and individuals who represent those most affected by the economic and social issues Urban addresses, expands and strengthens Urban's agenda of rigorous research on issues affecting these communities, effectively communicates the findings to diverse audiences, and recruits and retains a more diverse research staff at all levels. Kijakazi also conducts research on economic security, structural racism, and the racial wealth gap. Previously, she was a program officer at the Ford Foundation, focusing on building economic security for working families and effectively incorporating the expertise of people of color into all aspects of the work. Before that, Kijakazi was a senior policy analyst for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a program analyst for the US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, and a policy analyst for the National Urban League, Washington Operations. She authored the book *African-American Economic Development and Small Business Ownership*. She is a board member for several organizations, including the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, the National Academy of Social Insurance, and the Center for Global Policy Solutions. Kijakazi is an advisor for the Closing the Women's Wealth Gap Initiative and served as a member of the Bipartisan Commission on Retirement Security and Personal Savings. Kijakazi holds a doctoral degree in public policy from the George Washington University, a master's degree from Howard University, and a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton.

Kathleen Romig is a senior policy analyst at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. She works on Social Security, Supplemental Security Income, and other budget issues. Romig previously worked at the Social Security Administration, Social Security Advisory Board, and Congressional Research Service. She began her career as a presidential management fellow, during which time she completed an assignment at the Office of Management and Budget. Romig has a master's degree in social policy from University College Cork, Ireland, where she was a George J. Mitchell Scholar, and a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University's James Madison College.

Margery Turner is senior vice president for program planning and management at the Urban Institute, where she leads efforts to frame and conduct a forward-looking agenda of policy research. A nationally recognized expert on urban policy and neighborhood issues, Turner has analyzed issues of residential location, racial and ethnic discrimination and its contribution to neighborhood segregation and inequality, and the role of housing policies in promoting residential mobility and location choice. Among her recent publications is the book *Public Housing and the Legacy of Segregation*. Before joining Urban, Turner served as deputy assistant secretary for research at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from 1993 through 1996, focusing HUD's research agenda on the problems of racial discrimination, concentrated poverty, and economic opportunity in America's metropolitan areas. During her tenure, HUD's research office launched three major social science demonstration projects to test different strategies for helping families from distressed inner-city neighborhoods gain access to opportunities through employment and education. Turner has a bachelor's degree in political science from Cornell University and a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the George Washington University.



Sarah Rosen Wartell is the president of Urban Institute, the third president of the Urban Institute since it was founded in 1968. During her tenure, Urban has “elevated the debate” by bringing more of its insights from research to federal, state, and local government and practice; becoming a leader in research communications and data visualization; and undertaking an ambitious program of business systems and technology modernization. Previously, Wartell was deputy assistant to the president for economic policy and deputy director of the National Economic Council. At the US Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1993 to 1998, she advised the federal housing commissioner on housing finance, mortgage markets, and consumer protection. Later, she was a consultant to the bipartisan Millennial Housing Commission. After government service, Wartell was the founding chief operating officer and then executive vice president of the Center for American Progress. Before her tenure in government, she practiced law with the Washington, DC, firm Arnold & Porter. Wartell serves on the board of the Center for Law and Social Policy and on Bank of America’s National Community Advisory Council. She previously served on the boards of the Low Income Investment Fund, the Center for Urban Science and Progress at New York University, and the Corporation for Enterprise Development. Her areas of expertise include community development, consumer finance, asset building, and housing finance. Wartell has a bachelor’s degree with honors in urban affairs from Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. She has a doctoral degree from Yale Law School.