

Washington, DC -- U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (NY-24) announced that, starting today, Thursday, May 7, 2009, the U.S. Treasury will begin sending millions of seniors and disabled Americans a one-time \$250 economic recovery payment, provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Bill).

“These checks will be the difference between comfort and worry for many local seniors and disabled citizens struggling to get by on a fixed income, and help spur economic activity at local businesses at the same time,” **Arcuri said**. “I want local beneficiaries to know they don’t have to do anything to collect this additional income. The money will be delivered the same way you normally receive your benefits – either in a check by mail or direct deposit to your bank account.”

Payments to Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients will begin going out this week. Social Security recipient checks will be mailed out in batches over a four-week period starting today. To receive payments, individuals must have been eligible for benefits during November 2008, December 2008 or January 2009. If an individual receives payment from more than one of these agencies, they will receive one payment of \$250.

If a Social Security beneficiary or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient has not received a payment by June 4, 2009, he or she should contact Arcuri’s office at 1-800-235-2525 (Toll Free in NYS) or their local Social Security office for assistance.

Additional information can be found at [www.socialsecurity.gov/payment/](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/payment/).

Later in May, similar \$250 payments will go out to Railroad Retirement Board beneficiaries, followed by payments to Veteran Compensation and Pension beneficiaries in June. All Recovery Bill payments are being sent out on a rolling basis and should be completely distributed by the end of July.

The Recovery Bill, which Arcuri voted for and President Obama signed into law in February, also included the Make Work Pay Tax Credit, which went into effect on April 1, 2009 and provides tax relief to 95 percent of American workers.

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