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## **Newsletter for March 2016**

The deadline is quickly approaching to file and suspend Social Security benefits. In order to take advantage of this provision you must be age 66 prior to 5/2/2016 and must file your application prior to 4/30/2016.

The spouse file and restrict applications must be filed before 1/1/2020. The spouse must be age 66 prior to 1/2/2020 in order to restrict their application to spouse benefits only.

There are several strategies for accomplishing this. Those of you who have been to my lectures can call me to discuss your options.

Federal employees, there are proposals pending in Government issues. First is doing away with the Special Retirement Supplement (SRS). This would really hurt FERS employees who want to retire before age 62.

The second would cut the G Fund rate of return by 50%. This would save the Government money by lowering the cost of the interest the Government pays on G Fund investments.

The third would cut the Government contributions to an employee's or retirees cost for FEHB.

The Republicans and the President are in favor of these changes. Congressional Democrats will try to block the changes by requiring a cloture vote (of 60) to pass these proposals in the Senate.