



AMERICAN ACADEMY *of* ACTUARIES

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Chris Robichaux
202-785-7870

Robertson Honored by Academy Former Chief Social Security Actuary Receives Award

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The American Academy of Actuaries honored **A. Haeworth Robertson**, former chief actuary at the Social Security Administration, with the **2004 Robert J. Myers Public Service Award**. Robertson attended the Academy's Spring Meeting, which was held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center at Federal Triangle, as did the award's namesake, Robert J. Myers.

When presenting him the award, Academy President Barbara J. Lautzenheiser said Robertson was awarded for, **“his tremendous record of service to the public and the profession.”** She said Robertson's travels during his career abroad meant **“he was the actuarial Secretary of State -- representing the profession from one end of the globe to the other.”**

In his speech, Robertson said he is grateful to the American Academy of Actuaries for ignoring the writing of Sophocles stating: “Nobody likes a man who brings bad news,” referring to his own penchant as a career actuary who has continued to warn that our federal social insurance programs need reform and long-range financial stability.

While accepting the award, Robertson warned and encouraged his actuarial colleagues. **“Unfortunately, the Social Security and Medicare problems have not been resolved, so each of you has an opportunity to be of public service. Learn more about the problems and help raise the level of public dialogue as we search for rational solutions,”** Robertson implored.

Robertson served as the chief actuary of the Social Security Administration from 1975 to 1978. He is a member of the American Academy of Actuaries, a fellow of the Society of Actuaries, a fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, and an associate of the Institute of Actuaries. He is the founder and president of the Retirement Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., a nonprofit research and education organization devoted to the study of national retirement policy issues.

Lautzenheiser said both former chief actuaries of the Social Security Administration, Myers and Robertson, showed in a past advertisement that they have learned to “agree to disagree” on just about everything except how proud they are to be actuaries. An Academy advertisement for the profession enumerated the two men differed in their opinions about Social Security, Medicare, and just about everything.

The Robert J. Myers Public Service Award is presented annually during the Academy's annual Washington Luncheon to an actuary who has made a noteworthy contribution to the public. It is named for Robert J. Myers, former chief actuary of the Social Security Administration from 1947 to 1970, and a past president of the Academy.

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The American Academy of Actuaries is the nonpartisan public policy organization for the U.S. actuarial profession. The Academy provides independent analysis to elected officials and regulators, maintains professional standards for all actuaries, and communicates the value of actuarial work to the media and public.