I consider my 401k to be the only means by which I may someday retire. Being a young man of 26, I have no hope in the United States to adequately provide for me and my wife in retirement. I am of the firm belief that government, guided by only the best of intentions, has consistently proven that collectivist schemes such as those proposed to fund retirement have failed miserably. This, I am sure, is due to a myriad of reasons, the least of which being the lack of ability to do that which is politically unpopular: cutting benefits in the face of insolvency.

I have no delusions of wealth or grandeur in retirement, and I conservatively estimate that I will require something on the order of 1.5 to 2 million dollars just to maintain a lifestyle much like the one I have today (which is far from lavish, I can assure you). I am squarely in the middle class, I am not a high earner, nor am I rich. I simply want to build the kind of diversified security that the United States and the Treasury cannot deliver.

In another sense, I consider the idea of a forced annuitizing of my 401k to be an offense to my liberties as an American, a consumer, and an investor. In essence, the seizure of my property in the form of company ownership by the government rails against everything that this country has stood for since its beginning. Another way of seeing this is that the money I put away in a retirement plan goes into the economy where it is needed most. Money that I invest in banks find their way to people who need capital for new investments creating jobs, or perhaps a young couple who needs a loan for a house or important purchase. Money that I invest in medical companies might be used as funds for the research and development of some new miracle cure, or a wonderful new medical procedure for increasing the length and quality of life of someone who might have suffered otherwise.

Tell me please, what wonderful plans does the government have for my money? Federally subsidized loans for people with terrible credit and no down payment? Some road project that will be completed over budget and behind schedule? Perhaps our failing school system? Law enforcement for wrong-minded immigration and drug policies?

I know I am just one person, easily brushed off and forgotten in a mass angry of emails. But know this: I will endorse candidates of any party who openly oppose this idea. Nothing but the complete dismissal of this idea will bring peace of mind and restore to some small degree my confidence in our national leadership.