Record Nr. UNINA9910962929203321 Autore Aaron Henry J Titolo Should the United States privatize Social Security? / / Henry J. Aaron and John B. Shoven; edited and with an introduction by Benjamin M. Friedman Cambridge, Mass., : MIT Press, c1999 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-262-29223-8 0-262-26669-5 0-585-07783-5 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (190 p.) Altri autori (Persone) ShovenJohn B FriedmanBenjamin M Disciplina 368.4/3/00973 Soggetti Social security - United States Privatization - United States Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia "The Alvin Hansen Symposium on Public Policy, Harvard University." Note generali Papers and discussion from the Second Alvin Hansen Symposium held on April 27, 1998. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Should the United States Privatize Social Security? -- Contents --Introduction -- Social Security Reform: Two Tiers Are Better Than One -- Social Security: Tune It Up, Don t Trade It In -- Comments --Responses -- Rejoinder -- Contributors -- Index. The two papers that make up the core of this book address what is Sommario/riassunto perhaps the most fundamental question in the current debate over Social Security: whether to shift, in part or even entirely, from today's pay-as-you-go system to one that is not just funded but also privatized in the sense that individuals would retain control over the investment of their funds and, therefore, personally bear the associated risk. John Shoven argues yes, Henry Aaron no. Theoretical issues such as the likely effects on saving behavior and capital formation figure importantly in this discussion. But so do a broad array of practical considerations such as the expense of fund management and accounting, questions about how the public would regard the fairness

of any new system, and the impact of recent developments in the

federal budget and the U.S. stock market. The book also includes responses to both papers by four prominent economists--Robert J. Barro and David M. Cutler, of Harvard University; Alicia H. Munnell, of Boston College; and James Tobin, of Yale University--as well as Henry Aaron's and John Shoven's replies. The introductory remarks are by Benjamin M. Friedman.