Many types of federal and state benefits are *completely* protected from garnishment. Examples are Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and veteran’s benefits (except to pay certain child support obligations). These benefits are protected no matter how much you receive. States also usually exempt TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) and unemployment compensation benefits from garnishment as well. But once you put these benefits into your bank account, different rules apply.

**Source:** National Consumer Law Center, Surviving Debt [50th NCLC Anniversary Edition], updated at www.nclc.org/library

**Source URL:** https://library.nclc.org/sd/2104