

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 380

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the inclusion of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2015

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself and Mr. DOGGETT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to prohibit the inclusion of Social Security account numbers on Medicare cards.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Identity
5 Theft Prevention Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF INCLUSION OF SOCIAL SECURITY**
2 **ACCOUNT NUMBERS ON MEDICARE CARDS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205(c)(2)(C) of the Social
4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)) is amended—

5 (1) by moving clause (x), as added by section
6 1414(a)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable
7 Care Act, 6 ems to the left;

8 (2) by redesignating clause (x), as added by
9 section 2(a)(1) of the Social Security Number Pro-
10 tection Act of 2010, and clause (xi) as clauses (xi)
11 and (xii), respectively; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following new
13 clause:

14 “(xiii) The Secretary of Health and Human Services,
15 in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Security,
16 shall establish cost-effective procedures to ensure that a
17 Social Security account number (or derivative thereof) is
18 not displayed, coded, or embedded on the Medicare card
19 issued to an individual who is entitled to benefits under
20 part A of title XVIII or enrolled under part B of title
21 XVIII and that any other identifier displayed on such card
22 is not identifiable as a Social Security account number (or
23 derivative thereof).”.

24 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—In implementing clause (xiii)
25 of section 205(c)(2)(C) of the Social Security Act (42
26 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)), as added by subsection (a)(3), the

1 Secretary of Health and Human Services shall do the fol-
2 lowing:

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Establish a cost-effective
4 process that involves the least amount of disruption
5 to, as well as necessary assistance for, Medicare
6 beneficiaries and health care providers, such as a
7 process that provides such beneficiaries with access
8 to assistance through a toll-free telephone number
9 and provides outreach to providers.

10 (2) CONSIDERATION OF MEDICARE BENE-
11 FICIARY IDENTIFIED.—Consider implementing a
12 process, similar to the process involving Railroad Re-
13 tirement Board beneficiaries, under which a Medi-
14 care beneficiary identifier which is not a Social Secu-
15 rity account number (or derivative thereof) is used
16 external to the Department of Health and Human
17 Services and is convertible over to a Social Security
18 account number (or derivative thereof) for use inter-
19 nal to such Department and the Social Security Ad-
20 ministration.

21 (c) FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—For purposes
22 of implementing the provisions of and the amendments
23 made by this section, the Secretary of Health and Human
24 Services shall provide for the following transfers from the
25 Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under section

1 1817 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i) and
2 from the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust
3 Fund established under section 1841 of such Act (42
4 U.S.C. 1395t), in such proportions as the Secretary deter-
5 mines appropriate:

6 (1) To the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
7 Program Management Account, transfers of the fol-
8 lowing amounts:

9 (A) For fiscal year 2015, \$65,000,000, to
10 be made available through fiscal year 2018.

11 (B) For each of fiscal years 2016 and
12 2017, \$53,000,000, to be made available
13 through fiscal year 2018.

14 (C) For fiscal year 2018, \$48,000,000, to
15 be made available until expended.

16 (2) To the Social Security Administration Limi-
17 tation on Administration Account, transfers of the
18 following amounts:

19 (A) For fiscal year 2015, \$27,000,000, to
20 be made available through fiscal year 2018.

21 (B) For each of fiscal years 2016 and
22 2017, \$22,000,000, to be made available
23 through fiscal year 2018.

24 (C) For fiscal year 2018, \$27,000,000, to
25 be made available until expended.

1 (3) To the Railroad Retirement Board Limita-
2 tion on Administration Account, the following
3 amount:

4 (A) For fiscal year 2015, \$3,000,000, to
5 be made available until expended.

6 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Clause (xiii) of section
8 205(c)(2)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
9 405(c)(2)(C)), as added by subsection (a)(3), shall
10 apply with respect to Medicare cards issued on and
11 after an effective date specified by the Secretary of
12 Health and Human Services, but in no case shall
13 such effective date be later than the date that is four
14 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

15 (2) REISSUANCE.—The Secretary shall provide
16 for the reissuance of Medicare cards that comply
17 with the requirements of such clause not later than
18 four years after the effective date specified by the
19 Secretary under paragraph (1).

○