

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3578

To modify the annual reporting requirements of the Social Security Act,  
and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 2000

Mr. SUNUNU introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To modify the annual reporting requirements of the Social  
Security Act, and for other purposes.

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 “Social Security Right  
5 To Know Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORT**  
7 **OF TRUSTEES.**

8 Section 201(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 401(c)) is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through  
2           (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively;

3           (2) by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting  
4           “subparagraph (B)”;

5           (3) by inserting “(1)” after “(c)”;

6           (4) by redesignating the undesignated text fol-  
7           lowing subparagraph (E) (as redesignated by para-  
8           graph (1) of this section) as paragraph (2);

9           (5) by moving the last sentence of paragraph  
10          (2) (as redesignated by paragraph (4) of this sec-  
11          tion) so that it follows the fifth sentence of para-  
12          graph (1) (as redesignated by paragraph (3) of this  
13          section);

14          (6)(A) by moving the text of the fifth sentence  
15          of paragraph (2) (as redesignated by paragraph (4)  
16          of this section) beginning with “be printed as a  
17          House document” and ending with “the report is  
18          made” so that it follows “shall” in the first sentence  
19          of paragraph (2) (as redesignated by paragraph (4)  
20          of this section);

21          (B) by striking the remainder of the fifth sen-  
22          tence of paragraph (2) (as redesignated by para-  
23          graph (4) of this section); and

24          (C) by inserting “and” after the text so moved;

1           (7) in the fourth sentence of paragraph (2) (as  
2           redesignated by paragraph (4) of this section), by  
3           striking “Such report shall also include an” and in-  
4           serting the following:

5           “(C) An”;

6           (8) in the third sentence of paragraph (2) (as  
7           redesignated by paragraph (4) of this section), by  
8           striking “Such report shall include an” and inserting  
9           the following:

10          “(B) An”;

11          (9) in the first sentence of paragraph (2) (as  
12          redesignated by paragraph (4) of this section)—

13                (A) by striking “(2) above” after “para-  
14                graph” and inserting “(1)(B)”;

15                (B) by striking “shall include a statement”  
16                and inserting “shall include the following:

17                “(A) A statement”;

18          (10) by inserting after subparagraph (C) (as re-  
19          designated by paragraph (7) of this section) the fol-  
20          lowing:

21                “(D) A statement, in terms of inflation-ad-  
22                justed dollars, present discounted value, and nominal  
23                dollars, of—

24                        “(i) the aggregate amount of the unfunded  
25                        long-term projected liability of the social secu-

1           rity system and any change in that amount  
2           from the preceding year; and

3           “(ii) the amount of deficit or surplus that  
4           the social security system will run in the last  
5           year of such long-term projection period, with  
6           any aggregate assets or liabilities held by the  
7           Trust Funds in that final projected year.

8           “(E) The economic model and relevant data  
9           used to make the financial projections required to be  
10          reported under this paragraph, including any  
11          changes in the model and data from the preceding  
12          year.

13          “(F) A conspicuous summary of the items re-  
14          quired by clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (D),  
15          in terms of inflation-adjusted dollars.

16          “(G) An explanation that states in substance  
17          that the Trust Funds balances reflect resources au-  
18          thorized by Congress to pay future social security  
19          benefits, but do not consist of real economic assets  
20          that can be used in the future to fund benefits, and  
21          that such balances are claims against the United  
22          States Treasury that, when redeemed, must be fi-  
23          nanced through increased taxes, public borrowing,  
24          benefit reduction, or elimination of other Federal ex-  
25          penditures.”.

1 **SEC. 3. MATERIAL TO BE INCLUDED IN SOCIAL SECURITY**  
2 **ACCOUNT STATEMENT.**

3 Section 1143(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
4 1320b–13(a)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (2)(C) by striking “and”;

6 (2) in paragraph (2)(D) by striking the period  
7 and inserting “; and”;

8 (3) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the  
9 following new subparagraph:

10 “(E)(i) as determined by the Chief Actuary of  
11 the Social Security Administration—

12 “(I) a comparison of the annual social se-  
13 curity tax inflows (including amounts appro-  
14 priated under subsections (a) and (b) of section  
15 201 of this Act and section 121(e) of the Social  
16 Security Amendments of 1983 (26 U.S.C. 401  
17 note)) to the amount paid in benefits annually;  
18 and

19 “(II) a statement whether the ratio de-  
20 scribed in subclause (I) will result in a cash  
21 flow deficit and what year any such deficit will  
22 commence, as well as the first year in which  
23 funds in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors In-  
24 surance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability  
25 Insurance Trust Fund will cease to be sufficient  
26 to cover any such deficit and the percentage of

1 benefits due at that time that could be paid  
2 from the annual social security tax inflows (as  
3 that term is used in subelause (I));

4 “(ii) the explanation required by section  
5 201(c)(2)(G); and

6 “(iii) an explanation, in simple and easily un-  
7 derstood terms, of the average rate of return that a  
8 taxpayer can expect to receive on old-age insurance  
9 benefits as compared to the total amount of social  
10 security taxes a taxpayer expects to pay, including  
11 the inflation-adjusted average rate of return for  
12 workers born in every year beginning with 1900, set  
13 out in chart or graph form, with an explanatory cap-  
14 tion or legend, as determined by the Chief Actuary  
15 of the Social Security Administration.”.

16 **SEC. 4. USE OF CONTINUOUS WORK HISTORY SAMPLE FOR**  
17 **STATISTICAL RESEARCH.**

18 (a) DATA TO BE MADE AVAILABLE.—Notwith-  
19 standing any other provision of law, the Social Security  
20 Administration shall make available to the public the Con-  
21 tinuous Work History Sample (referred to in this section  
22 as the “CWHIS”) data administered by such Administra-  
23 tion subject to the restrictions provided for in subsections  
24 (b) and (c).

1 (b) LIMITATIONS ON RELEASE OF DATA.—The Of-  
2 fice of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Ad-  
3 ministration shall make statistical samples of individual  
4 records from the CWHS available to a user if the user—

5 (1) agrees to make use of the data from the  
6 CWHS solely for the purpose of conducting statis-  
7 tical research activities;

8 (2) agrees in writing to such conditions as may  
9 be reasonably determined by the Commissioner of  
10 the Social Security Administration to be necessary  
11 to ensure that data from the CWHS is not made  
12 available in individually identifiable form; and

13 (3) fully reimburses the Office of Research and  
14 Statistics for the cost of supplying the data.

15 (c) NO PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMA-  
16 TION.—To protect privacy, the Office of Research and  
17 Statistics of the Social Security Administration shall re-  
18 move all identifiers which can link CWHS records to the  
19 identity of an individual respondent prior to the release  
20 of the data.

21 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

22 (1) the term “Continuous Work History Sam-  
23 ple” means the statistical sample of individual ad-  
24 ministrative records held by the Social Security Ad-  
25 ministration; and

1           (2) the term “user” means any individual or  
2           legal entity, including an employee of the Federal  
3           Government, who receives access to the Continuous  
4           Work History Sample.

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