

108<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4846

To reduce the risk of identity theft by limiting the use of Social Security account numbers on certain Government-issued identification cards and Government documents.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2004

Ms. GRANGER (for herself, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GILLMOR, Mr. PAUL, Ms. HARRIS, and Mr. CALVERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Energy and Commerce, and Veterans' Affairs, 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

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## A BILL

To reduce the risk of identity theft by limiting the use of Social Security account numbers on certain Government-issued identification cards and Government documents.

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 Num-  
5       ber Privacy and Protection Act of 2004”.

1 **SEC. 2. ALTERATION OF SELECTIVE SERVICE REMINDER**  
2 **MAILBACK CARD TO REDUCE RISK OF THEFT**  
3 **OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBERS.**

4 Not later than two years after the date of the enact-  
5 ment of this Act, the Director of Selective Service shall  
6 alter the form of the Selective Service reminder mailback  
7 card, or the method by which the card is submitted to  
8 the Selective Service System, to reduce the risk of theft  
9 of social security account numbers included as part of the  
10 identifying information required from persons presenting  
11 themselves for registration under the Military Selective  
12 Service Act (50 U.S.C. App. 451 et seq.).

13 **SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUM-**  
14 **BER FROM MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP**  
15 **IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

16 (a) **MEDICARE.**—Section 1874 of the Social Security  
17 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395kk) is amended by adding at the end  
18 the following new subsection:

19 “(d) Any individual identification or similar card  
20 issued to carry out this title shall not contain the social  
21 security account number of any individual, but may con-  
22 tain another identification number or code as the Sec-  
23 retary may specify. Nothing in this subsection shall be  
24 construed as preventing the use of social security account  
25 numbers for claims or other purposes under this title.”.

1 (b) MEDICAID.—Section 1902(a)(48) of such Act (42  
2 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(48)) is amended by inserting before the  
3 semicolon at the end the following: “and in issuing any  
4 individual identification card to carry out this title, pro-  
5 vide that the card shall not contain the social security ac-  
6 count number of any individual (but may contain another  
7 identification number or code as the State may specify)”.

8 (c) SCHIP.—Section 2102(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
9 1397bb(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following  
10 new paragraph:

11 “(5) RESTRICTIONS ON IDENTIFICATION  
12 CARDS.—Any individual identification or similar  
13 card issued to carry out this title shall not contain  
14 the social security account number of any individual  
15 (including a family member) but may contain an-  
16 other identification number or code as the State may  
17 specify. Nothing in this paragraph shall be con-  
18 strued as preventing the use of social security ac-  
19 count numbers for claims or other purposes under  
20 this title.”.

21 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22 this section shall take effect 2 years after the date of the  
23 enactment of this Act and shall apply to individual identi-  
24 fication cards issued on or after such effective date.

1 **SEC. 4. ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUM-**  
2 **BER FROM VETERANS HEALTH CARE IDENTI-**  
3 **FICATION CARDS ISSUED BY THE DEPART-**  
4 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 73 of title 38, United  
6 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 7334  
7 the following new section:

8 **“§ 7335. Prohibition on use of social security account**  
9 **number on health care identification**  
10 **cards**

11 “In issuing individual identification cards (or similar  
12 cards) for purposes of management of health care benefits  
13 under chapter 17 of this title, the Secretary shall provide  
14 that any such card that is issued after the end of the two-  
15 year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this  
16 section shall not contain the social security account num-  
17 ber of any individual (including a family member).”.

18 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
19 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
20 after the item relating to section 7344 the following new  
21 item:

“7355. Prohibition on use of social security account number on health care identification cards.”.

1 **SEC. 5. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING REMOVAL OF SO-**  
2 **CIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBERS FROM**  
3 **IDENTIFICATION AND CLAIMS CARDS USED**  
4 **BY HEALTH INSURERS.**

5 It is the sense of Congress that health insurers should  
6 not use social security account numbers on insurance iden-  
7 tification or claims cards issued to beneficiaries, but  
8 should substitute another identification code or number  
9 instead.

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