

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 92

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit Medicare beneficiaries upon request to use an identification number other than a social security account number under the Medicare Program in order to deter identity theft.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2005

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN 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

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit Medicare beneficiaries upon request to use an identification number other than a social security account number under the Medicare Program in order to deter identity theft.

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

1 **SECTION 1. PERMITTING UPON REQUEST THE USE OF AN**  
2 **IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OTHER THAN SO-**  
3 **CIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBER UNDER**  
4 **THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1874 of the Social Secu-  
6 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395kk) is amended by adding at the  
7 end the following new subsection:

8 “(d) The Secretary shall establish a procedure under  
9 which, upon request of an individual who is entitled to  
10 benefits under this title, the Secretary shall provide—

11 “(1) for the issuance and use of an identifica-  
12 tion number other than the individual’s social secu-  
13 rity account number for purposes of carrying out the  
14 provisions of this title (and related provisions) with  
15 respect to such individual; and

16 “(2) for the issuance of an appropriate medi-  
17 care card containing such alternative identification  
18 number.”.

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary of Health and  
20 Human Services shall establish the procedure required  
21 under the amendment made by subsection (a) not later  
22 than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.  
23 Such procedure shall apply to an individual regardless of  
24 whether or not a medicare identification card was issued

- 1 to the individual before the date of establishment of such
- 2 procedure.

