

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6600

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

JULY 24, 2008

Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HODES, Mr. HERGER, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. WELLER of Illinois, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. LINDER, Mr. STARK, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. TANNER, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. POMEROY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. KIND, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FARR, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. EDWARDS of Texas, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. REYES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Identity
3 Theft Prevention Act of 2008”.

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

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205(c)(2)(C) of the Social
7 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(C)) is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following new clause:

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

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by
21 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to Medicare
22 cards issued on and after an effective date specified
23 by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, but
24 in no case shall such effective date be later than the
25 date that is 30 months after the date of the enact-
26 ment of this Act.

1 (2) REISSUANCE.—In the case of individuals
2 who have been issued such cards before such date,
3 the Secretary of Health and Human Services—

4 (A) shall provide for the reissuance for
5 such individuals of such a card that complies
6 with such amendment not later than 3 years
7 after the effective date under paragraph (1);
8 and

9 (B) may permit such individuals to apply
10 for the reissuance of such a card that complies
11 with such amendment before the date of
12 reissuance otherwise provided under subpara-
13 graph (A) in such exceptional circumstances as
14 the Secretary may specify.

15 (c) OUTREACH PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Health
16 and Human Services, in consultation with the Commis-
17 sioner of Social Security, shall conduct an outreach pro-
18 gram to Medicare beneficiaries and providers about the
19 new Medicare card provided under this section.

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