H. R. 5725

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal taxes on the income of senior citizens and to improve income security of senior citizens.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 13, 2010

Mr. Posey (for himself and Mrs. Blackburn) 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 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal taxes on the income of senior citizens and to improve income security of senior citizens.

- 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 "Senior Citizens Income
- 5 Security Act of 2010".

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF 1993 INCOME TAX INCREASE ON SOCIAL 2 SECURITY BENEFITS. 3 (a) RESTORATION OF PRIOR LAW FORMULA.—Subsection (a) of section 86 of the Internal Revenue Code of 4 5 1986 is amended to read as follows: 6 "(a) In General.—Gross income for the taxable year of any taxpayer described in subsection (b) (notwithstanding section 207 of the Social Security Act) includes 9 Social Security benefits in an amount equal to the lesser of— 10 "(1) one-half of the Social Security benefits re-11 12 ceived during the taxable year, or "(2) one-half of the excess described in sub-13 section (b)(1).". 14 15 (b) REPEAL OF ADJUSTED BASE AMOUNT.—Subsection (c) of section 86 of such Code is amended to read as follows: 17 18 "(c) Base Amount.—For purposes of this section, 19 the term 'base amount' means— 20 "(1) except as otherwise provided in this sub-21 section, \$25,000, 22 "(2) \$32,000 in the case of a joint return, and 23 "(3) zero in the case of a taxpayer who— 24 "(A) is married as of the close of the tax-25 able year (within the meaning of section 7703)

1	but does not file a joint return for such year,
2	and
3	"(B) does not live apart from his spouse at
4	all times during the taxable year.".
5	(c) Conforming Amendments.—
6	(1) Subparagraph (A) of section 871(a)(3) of
7	such Code is amended by striking "85 percent" and
8	inserting "50 percent".
9	(2)(A) Subparagraph (A) of section 121(e)(1)
10	of the Social Security Amendments of 1983 (Public
11	Law 98–21) is amended—
12	(i) by striking "(A) There" and inserting
13	"There";
14	(ii) by striking "(i)" immediately following
15	"amounts equivalent to"; and
16	(iii) by striking ", less (ii)" and all that
17	follows and inserting a period.
18	(B) Paragraph (1) of section 121(e) of such Act
19	is amended by striking subparagraph (B).
20	(C) Paragraph (3) of section 121(e) of such Act
21	is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by re-
22	designating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).
23	(D) Paragraph (2) of section 121(e) of such
24	Act is amended in the first sentence by striking
25	"paragraph (1)(A)" and inserting "paragraph (1)".

- 1 (d) Maintenance of Transfers to Hospital In-2 surance Trust Fund.—
- 3 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are hereby appropriated to the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund estab-5 lished under section 1817 of the Social Security Act 6 amounts equal to the reduction in revenues to the 7 Treasury by reason of the enactment of this section. 8 Amounts appropriated by the preceding sentence 9 shall be transferred from the general fund at such 10 times and in such manner as to replicate to the ex-11 tent possible the transfers which would have oc-12 curred to such Trust Fund had this section not been 13 enacted.
 - (2) Reports.—The Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate shall annually report to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate the amounts and timing of the transfers under this subsection.

(e) Effective Dates.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009.

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1	(2) Subsection (c)(1).—The amendment made
2	by subsection $(c)(1)$ shall apply to benefits paid after
3	December 31, 2009.
4	(3) Subsection $(c)(2)$.—The amendments
5	made by subsection (c)(2) shall apply to tax liabil-
6	ities for taxable years beginning after December 31,
7	2009.
8	SEC. 3. ELIMINATE MANDATORY WITHDRAWALS ON IRAS.
9	(a) In General.—Subsection (a) of section 401 of
10	the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking
11	paragraph (9).
12	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
13	(1) Section 403(b)(10) of such Code is amend-
14	ed by striking "sections $401(a)(9)$ " and inserting "
15	section".
16	(2) Subsections (a)(6) and (b)(3) of section 408
17	of such Code are both amended by striking "section
18	401(a)(9) and".
19	(3) Section 408A(c)(5) of such Code is amend-
20	ed to read as follows:
21	"(5) Mandatory distribution rules not
22	TO APPLY BEFORE DEATH.—Notwithstanding sub-
23	sections (a)(6) and (b)(3) of section 408 (relating to
24	required distributions), the incidental death benefit

1	requirements of section 401(a) shall not apply to
2	any Roth IRA.".
3	(4) Section 402(c) of such Code is amended—
4	(A) in paragraph (4) by striking subpara-
5	graph (B), by inserting "and" at the end of
6	subparagraph (A), and by redesignating sub-
7	paragraph (C) as subparagraph (B), and
8	(B) in paragraph (11)(A)—
9	(i) by inserting "(as in effect on the
10	day before the date of the enactment of
11	this phrase)" after "section 401(a)(9)(E)",
12	and
13	(ii) by inserting "and" at the end of
14	clause (i), by striking ", and" at the end
15	of clause (ii) and inserting a period, and
16	by striking clause (iii).
17	(5) Section 409(d) of such Code is amended by
18	striking "to any distribution required under section
19	401(a)(9) or''.
20	(6) Section 457(d) of such Code is amended—
21	(A) in paragraph (1) by striking subpara-
22	graph (B), by inserting "and" at the end of
23	subparagraph (A), and be redesignating sub-
24	paragraph (C) as subparagraph (B), and

1	(B) by striking paragraph (2) and redesig-
2	nating paragraph (3) as paragraph (2).
3	(7) Section 4974(b) of such Code is amended
4	by striking "401(a)(9)".
5	SEC. 4. ELIMINATE PAYROLL TAX FOR MEDICARE AND SO-
6	CIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES.
7	(a) In General.—Section 3101 of the Internal Rev-
8	enue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the
9	following:
10	"(d) Exception.—Subsections (a) and (b) shall not
11	apply to any individual who—
12	"(1) is entitled to benefits under part A of title
13	XVIII of the Social Security Act or is enrolled under
14	part B of such title, or
15	"(2) is entitled to a monthly insurance benefit
16	under title II of the Social Security Act based on
17	such individual's wages and self-employment in-
18	come.".
19	(b) Self-Employment.—Section 1401 of such Code
20	is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
21	section:
22	"(d) Exception.—In the case of any individual
23	who—

1 "(1) is entitled to benefits under part A of title 2 XVIII of the Social Security Act or is enrolled under 3 part B of such title, or "(2) is entitled to a monthly insurance benefit 4 5 under title II of the Social Security Act based on 6 such individual's wages and self-employment income, 7 subsections (a) and (b) shall be applied for the taxable 8 year by substituting one-half of the percent otherwise 9 specified in such subsections.". 10 (c) Effective Dates.— 11 (1) The amendment made by subsection (a) 12 shall apply to wages paid after December 31, 2009. 13 (2) The amendment made by subsection (b) 14 shall apply to enumeration paid in taxable years 15 ending after the date of the enactment of this Act. 16 (d) Trust Funds Held Harmless.—There is hereby appropriated (out of any money in the Treasury 18 not otherwise appropriated) for each fiscal year to each 19 fund under the Social Security Act an amount equal to the reduction in the transfers to such fund for such fiscal 20

year by reason of the amendments made by this section.

1	SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO ELECT VOUCHER PROGRAM IN-
2	STEAD OF MEDICARE PART A ENTITLEMENT.
3	(a) In General.—Section 226 of the Social Security
4	Act (42 U.S.C. 426) is amended by adding at the end the
5	following new subsections:
6	"(k) Waiver of Entitlement and Election of
7	Voucher Program.—
8	"(1) In General.—Notwithstanding the pre-
9	vious provisions of this section, the Secretary shall
10	establish a procedure under which an individual oth-
11	erwise entitled under subsection (a) to benefits
12	under part A of title XVIII may waive such entitle-
13	ment and be automatically enrolled in the Medicare
14	Alternative Voucher Program established under sub-
15	section (l) if—
16	"(A) at the time such waiver is made the
17	individual—
18	"(i) has a health savings account de-
19	scribed in subsection (d) of section 223 of
20	the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and
21	"(ii) is enrolled under a high deduct-
22	ible health plan, as defined in subsection
23	(e)(1) of such section; and
24	"(B) the individual waives such entitlement
25	during the individual's initial enrollment period
26	described in section 1837(d).

- "(2) TREATMENT UNDER THE INTERNAL REV-ENUE CODE OF 1986.—An individual who waives entitlement under paragraph (1) shall not be treated as entitled to benefits under title XVIII for purposes of section 223(b)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
 - "(3) INELIGIBILITY FOR PART B OR D BENE-FITS.—An individual shall not be eligible for benefits under part B or D of title XVIII during the period for which the individual waives entitlement under part A of such title under paragraph (1).
 - "(4) TERMINATION OF WAIVER AND REENROLL-MENT UNDER MEDICARE PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish a procedure under which an individual who waives entitlement under paragraph (1) may terminate such waiver during an annual period that shall be the same as the annual general enrollment period described in section 1837(e). For purposes of applying parts B and D of title XVIII, such individual shall be treated as if the individual were entitled to benefits under part A of such title as of the date such individual terminates the waiver under this paragraph. An individual who has terminated such a waiver may not subsequently make such a waiver.

1	"(l) Medicare Alternative Voucher Pro-
2	GRAM.—
3	"(1) Establishment of Program.—The Sec-
4	retary shall establish a program to be known as the
5	Medicare Alternative Voucher Program (in this sub-
6	section referred to as the 'voucher program') con-
7	sistent with this subsection.
8	"(2) Automatic enrollment.—An individual
9	who waives entitlement under subsection $(k)(1)$ shall
10	be enrolled in the voucher program for the period
11	during which such waiver is in effect.
12	"(3) Amount of voucher.—
13	"(A) Amount based on age cohort.—
14	"(i) In general.—Subject to clause
15	(ii), for each month that an individual
16	within an age cohort is enrolled in the
17	voucher program, the Secretary shall pro-
18	vide a voucher to such individual in an
19	amount that is equal to the monthly actu-
20	arial rate for that month computed under
21	section 1818(d)(1) multiplied by the age
22	cohort adjustment factor for such age co-
23	hort under subparagraph (B).

1	"(ii) Monthly Limit.—The amount
2	of a voucher provided to an individual for
3	a month may not exceed \$200.
4	"(B) AGE COHORT ADJUSTMENT FAC-
5	TOR.—For each age cohort the Secretary shall
6	determine an age cohort adjustment factor
7	equal to the ratio of—
8	"(i) the monthly actuarial rate de-
9	scribed in section 1818(d)(1) as deter-
10	mined by the Secretary for individuals in
11	such age cohort, to
12	"(ii) the monthly actuarial rate de-
13	scribed in such section.
14	"(C) Age cohort defined.—For pur-
15	poses of this paragraph, an 'age cohort' means
16	a group of individuals whose age falls within a
17	span of 5 consecutive years, consistent with the
18	following:
19	"(i) The first such span begins at age
20	65.
21	"(ii) Other spans follow consecutively.
22	"(4) Permissible use of voucher.—A
23	voucher under paragraph (3) may be used only for
24	the following purposes:

1	"(A) As a contribution into a health sav-
2	ings account established by such individual, as
3	described in subsection $(k)(1)(A)$.
4	"(B) For payment of premiums for enroll-
5	ment of such individual under a high deductible
6	health plan described in such subsection.
7	"(5) Effect of subsequent termination
8	OF WAIVER.—If an individual terminates a waiver
9	under subsection (k)(3), the enrollment of such indi-
10	vidual in the voucher program shall be terminated
11	on the date on which the termination becomes effec-
12	tive.".
13	(b) Amendment of Internal Revenue Code of
14	1986.—Paragraph (7) of section 223(b) of the Internal
15	Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to Medicare eligible indi-
16	viduals) is amended to read as follows:
17	"(7) Medicare eligible individuals.—
18	"(A) In General.—The limitation under
19	this subsection for any month with respect to
20	an individual shall be zero for any month such
21	individual is entitled to benefits under title
22	XVIII of the Social Security Act.
23	"(B) Medicare alternative voucher
24	PROGRAM.—In the case of an individual who is
25	enrolled in the Medicare Alternative Voucher

Program under section 226(l) of the Social Security Act, the applicable limitation under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) shall be increased by the amount of the voucher described in paragraph (3) of such section which is contributed to a health savings account of such individual.".

(c) Effective Date.—

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- (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is six months after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to an individual who becomes entitled to benefits under part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act on or after such date of the enactment.
- 16 (2) AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE
 17 OF 1986.—The amendment made by subsection (b)
 18 shall apply to months ending after the date referred
 19 to in paragraph (1), in taxable years ending after
 20 such date.
- 21 SEC. 6. PARTIAL EXCLUSION OF INTEREST, DIVIDENDS,
- 22 AND CAPITAL GAINS RECEIVED BY INDIVID-
- 23 UALS.
- 24 (a) In General.—Part III of subchapter B of chap-
- 25 ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to

1	amounts specifically excluded from gross income) is
2	amended by inserting after section 115 the following new
3	section:
4	"SEC. 116. PARTIAL EXCLUSION FOR INTEREST, DIVIDENDS
5	AND CAPITAL GAINS RECEIVED BY INDIVID
6	UALS.
7	"(a) In General.—Gross income does not include
8	the sum of amounts received during the taxable year by
9	an individual as—
10	"(1) dividends from a domestic corporation,
11	"(2) interest, and
12	"(3) capital gains.
13	"(b) Limitation.—The aggregate amount excluded
14	under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed
15	\$250 (\$500 in the case of a joint return), as identified
16	by the taxpayer on the return of tax for such year.
17	"(c) Interest.—For purposes of this section, the
18	term 'interest' means—
19	"(1) interest on deposits with a bank (as de-
20	fined in section 581),
21	"(2) amounts (whether or not designated as in-
22	terest) paid in respect of deposits, investment certifi-
23	cates, or withdrawable or repurchasable shares, by—
24	"(A) a mutual savings bank, cooperative
25	bank, domestic building and loan association,

1 industrial loan association or bank, or credit 2 union, or 3 "(B) any other savings or thrift institution 4 which is chartered and supervised under Federal or State law, the deposits or accounts in 6 which are insured under Federal or State law 7 or which are protected and guaranteed under 8 State law, 9 "(3) interest on— "(A) evidences of indebtedness (including 10 11 bonds, debentures, notes, and certificates) 12 issued by a domestic corporation in registered 13 form, and 14 "(B) to the extent provided in regulations 15 prescribed by the Secretary, other evidences of indebtedness issued by a domestic corporation 16 17 of a type offered by corporations to the public, 18 "(4) interest on obligations of the United 19 States, a State, or a political subdivision of a State 20 (not excluded from gross income of the taxpayer 21 under any other provision of law), and 22 "(5) interest attributable to participation shares 23 in a trust established and maintained by a corpora-24 tion established pursuant to Federal law.

1	"(d) DIVIDENDS.—For purposes of this section, the
2	term 'dividend' means qualified dividend income (as de-
3	fined in paragraph (11)(B) of section 1(h)) (determined
4	without regard to paragraph (13) thereof).
5	"(e) Special Rules.—For purposes of this sec-
6	tion—
7	"(1) Distributions from regulated in-
8	VESTMENT COMPANIES AND REAL ESTATE INVEST-
9	MENT TRUSTS.—Subsection (a) shall apply with re-
10	spect to distributions by—
11	"(A) regulated investment companies to
12	the extent provided in section 854(e), and
13	"(B) real estate investment trusts to the
14	extent provided in section $857(c)(3)$.
15	"(2) Distributions by a trust.—For pur-
16	poses of subsection (a), the amount of interest prop-
17	erly allocable to a beneficiary under section 652 or
18	662 shall be deemed to have been received by the
19	beneficiary ratably on the same date that the inter-
20	est was received by the estate or trust.
21	"(3) CERTAIN NONRESIDENT ALIENS INELI-
22	GIBLE FOR EXCLUSION.—In the case of a non-
23	resident alien individual, subsection (a) shall apply
24	only—

1	"(A) in determining the tax imposed for
2	the taxable year pursuant to section 871(b)(1)
3	and only in respect of interest which are effec-
4	tively connected with the conduct of a trade or
5	business within the United States, or
6	"(B) in determining the tax imposed for
7	the taxable year pursuant to section 877(b).".
8	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
9	(1) The table of sections for part III of sub-
10	chapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by
11	inserting after the item relating to section 115 the
12	following new item:
	"Sec. 116. Partial exclusion for interest, dividends, and capital gains received by individuals.".
13	(2) Subsection (h) of section 1 of such Code is
14	amended by adding at the end the following:
15	"(13) Coordination with Partial Exclu-
16	SION FOR INTEREST, DIVIDENDS, AND CAPITAL
17	GAINS RECEIVED BY INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of
18	this section, dividends and capital gains excluded
19	from gross income by section 116 shall not be taken
20	into account.".
21	(3) Paragraph (2) of section 265(a) of such
22	Code is amended by inserting before the period at
23	the end thereof the following: ", or to purchase or
24	carry obligations or shares, or to make deposits, to

- the extent the interest thereon is excludable from gross income under section 116".
- 3 (4) Subsection (c) of section 584 of such Code 4 is amended by adding at the end thereof the fol-5 lowing new sentence: "The proportionate share of 6 each participant in the amount of interest received 7 by the common trust fund and to which section 116 8 applies shall be considered for purposes of such sec-9 tion as having been received by such participant.".
 - (5) Subsection (a) of section 643 of such Code is amended by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8) and by inserting after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:
 - "(7) Interest.—There shall be included the amount of any interest excluded from gross income pursuant to section 116.".
- 17 (6) Section 854 of such Code is amended by 18 adding at the end thereof the following new sub-19 section:
- 20 "(c) Treatment Under Section 116 for Other
 21 Dividends and Taxable Interest.—
- "(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 116, in the case of any dividend (other than a dividend described in subsection (a)) received from a regulated investment company which meets the re-

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1	quirements of section 852 for the taxable year in
2	which it paid the dividend—
3	"(A) the entire amount of such dividend
4	shall be treated as interest if the aggregate in-
5	terest received by such company during the tax-
6	able year equals or exceeds 75 percent of its
7	gross income,
8	"(B) the entire amount of such dividend
9	shall be treated as interest if the aggregate in-
10	terest received by such company during the tax-
11	able year equals or exceeds 75 percent of its
12	gross income, or
13	"(C) if subparagraphs (A) and (B) do not
14	apply, a portion of such dividend shall be treat-
15	ed as a dividend (and a portion of such divi-
16	dend shall be treated as interest) based on the
17	portion of the company's gross income which
18	consists of aggregate dividends or aggregate in-
19	terest, as the case may be.
20	For purposes of the preceding sentence, gross in-
21	come and aggregate interest received shall each be
22	reduced by so much of the deduction allowable by
23	section 163 for the taxable year as does not exceed

aggregate interest received for the taxable year.

1	"(2) Notice to shareholders.—The amount
2	of any distribution by a regulated investment com-
3	pany which may be taken into account as a dividend
4	and as interest for purposes of the exclusion under
5	section 116 shall not exceed the amount so des-
6	ignated by the company in a written notice to its
7	shareholders mailed not later than 45 days after the
8	close of its taxable year.
9	"(3) Definitions.—For purposes of this sub-
10	section—
11	"(A) The term 'gross income' does not in-
12	clude gain from the sale or other disposition of
13	stock or securities.
14	"(B) The term 'aggregate dividends re-
15	ceived' includes only dividends described in sec-
16	tion 116(d).
17	"(C) The term 'aggregate interest received'
18	includes only interest described in section
19	116(e).''.
20	(7) Subsection (c) of section 857 of such Code
21	is amended by adding at the end the following new
22	paragraph:
23	"(3) Treatment as interest.—
24	"(A) In general.—For purposes of sec-
25	tion 116, in the case of a dividend (other than

1	a capital gain dividend, as defined in subsection
2	(b)(3)(C)) received from a real estate invest-
3	ment trust which meets the requirements of
4	this part for the taxable year in which it paid
5	the dividend—
6	"(i) such dividend shall be treated as
7	interest if the aggregate interest received
8	by the real estate investment trust for the
9	taxable year equals or exceeds 75 percent
10	of its gross income, or
11	"(ii) if clause (i) does not apply, the
12	portion of such dividend which bears the
13	same ratio to the amount of such dividend
14	as the aggregate interest received bears to
15	gross income shall be treated as interest.
16	"(B) Adjustments to gross income
17	AND AGGREGATE INTEREST RECEIVED.—For
18	purposes of paragraph (2)—
19	"(i) gross income does not include the
20	net capital gain,
21	"(ii) gross income and aggregate in-
22	terest received shall each be reduced by so
23	much of the deduction allowable by section
24	163 for the taxable year (other than for in-
25	terest on mortgages on real property

1	owned by the real estate investment trust
2	as does not exceed aggregate interest re-
3	ceived by the taxable year, and
4	"(iii) gross income shall be reduced by
5	the sum of the taxes imposed by para-
6	graphs (4), (5), and (6) of section 857(b)
7	"(C) Aggregate interest received.—
8	The term 'aggregate interest received' includes
9	only interest described in section 116(c).
10	"(D) Notice to shareholders.—The
11	amount of any distribution by a real estate in-
12	vestment trust which may be taken into account
13	as interest for purposes of the exclusion under
14	section 116 shall not exceed the amount so des-
15	ignated by the trust in a written notice to its
16	shareholders mailed not later than 45 days
17	after the close of its taxable year.".
18	(8) The heading for subsection (c) of section
19	857 of such Code is amended by inserting "AND IN-
20	TEREST" after "DIVIDENDS".
21	(c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
22	this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
23	December 31 2009