

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

---

To direct the Commissioner of Social Security to implement certain record keeping recommendations, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. KING of Iowa introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

---

# A BILL

To direct the Commissioner of Social Security to implement certain record keeping recommendations, 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 Integ-  
5 rity Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Individuals can commit various types of  
2 fraud against the Government by reporting earnings  
3 under deceased individuals' Social Security Numbers  
4 (SSNs).

5           (2) Various Federal entities rely on the Social  
6 Security Administration's (SSA) death information  
7 to detect unreported deaths and verify the accuracy  
8 of reported deaths.

9           (3) The Numident is the SSA's computer data-  
10 base file on all who have applied for a Social Secu-  
11 rity number. The Office of the Inspector General  
12 (OIG) of the SSA conducted an audit and deter-  
13 mined that the SSA did not have controls in place  
14 to annotate death information on the Numident  
15 records of numberholders who exceeded maximum  
16 reasonable life expectancies and were likely deceased.

17           (4) The OIG identified approximately 6.5 mil-  
18 lion numberholders age 112 or older who did not  
19 have death information on the Numident.

20           (5) The OIG identified 34 cases in which it ap-  
21 peared that the deceased numberholder's name and  
22 Social Security Number (SSN) had been misused. In  
23 one instance an employer reported paying wages to  
24 someone from 2008 through 2012 using a  
25 numberholder's name and SSN that had been born

1 in 1886. SSA payment records indicated that the  
2 numberholder died in January 1965, but the SSA  
3 did not record the number's death on the Numident.  
4 SSA continued paying benefits to the  
5 numberholder's widow until her death in February  
6 1973. SSA's Master Earning File (MEF) contained  
7 no reported earnings information for this  
8 numberholder from 1956 through 2007.

9 (6) The OIG determined that thousands of the  
10 SSNs could have been used to commit identity  
11 fraud. For Tax Years 2006 through 2011, SSA re-  
12 ceived reports that individuals using 66,920 SSNs  
13 had approximately \$3.1 billion in wages, tips, and  
14 self-employment income. SSA transferred the earn-  
15 ings to the Earnings Suspense File because the em-  
16 ployees' or self-employed individuals' names on the  
17 earnings reports did not match the numberholders'  
18 names.

19 (7) During Calendar Years 2008 through 2011,  
20 employers made 4,024 E-Verify inquiries using  
21 3,873 SSNs belonging to numberholders born before  
22 June 16, 1901. According to the OIG, these inquir-  
23 ies indicate individuals' attempts to use the SSNs to  
24 apply for work.

1           (8) The OIG determined that resolving these  
2           discrepancies will improve the accuracy and com-  
3           pleteness of the Death Master File and help prevent  
4           future misuse of these SSNs.

5           (9) The American taxpayer deserves to have the  
6           surety of knowing that every agency and department  
7           within the federal government takes the prudent ac-  
8           tions necessary to prevent future fraud and waste of  
9           hard-earned dollars.

10          (10) In line with the OIG's recommendations,  
11          the SSA should take proactive action to protect the  
12          American taxpayer by ensuring that there are con-  
13          trols in place to annotate death information on the  
14          Numident records of numberholders who exceeded  
15          maximum reasonable life expectancies.

16 **SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF OIG RECOMMENDATIONS.**

17          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the  
18          date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of  
19          Social Security shall implement all of the recommenda-  
20          tions described in the memorandum from the Office of the  
21          Inspector General of the Social Security Administration  
22          entitled “Numberholders Age 112 or Older Who Did Not  
23          Have a Death Entry on the Numident (A-06-14-34030)”  
24          and dated March 4, 2015.

1           (b) REPORT.—Not later than December 31 of each  
2 calendar year that begins after the date of the enactment  
3 of this Act and ends before the date that is 3 years after  
4 such date of enactment, the Commissioner shall submit  
5 to the Congress a report on the progress made toward im-  
6 plementation of each the recommendations described in  
7 the memorandum specified in subsection (a), the methods  
8 used to implement such recommendations, the amount of  
9 funds expended and any other resources utilized to imple-  
10 ment such recommendations, and the projected date of full  
11 implementation.