

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 50

To protect seniors from identity theft and strengthen our national security
by providing for the issuance of a secure Social Security card.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. KIRK (for himself and Mr. ROSKAM) introduced the following bill; which
was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To protect seniors from identity theft and strengthen our
national security by providing for the issuance of a se-
cure Social Security card.

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 Iden-
5 tity Theft Prevention Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. UPDATED AND SECURE SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205(c)(2)(G) of the Social
8 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(c)(2)(G)) is amended—

9 (1) by inserting “(i)” after “(G)”;

1 (2) in the last sentence, by striking “shall be
2 made of banknote paper, and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following new
4 clauses:

5 “(ii) A social security card issued pursuant to clause
6 (i) of this subparagraph to an individual described in sub-
7 paragraph (B)(ii) shall—

8 “(I) be made of tamperproof and wear-resistant
9 material;

10 “(II) have clearly marked on its face the name
11 and social security account number of the individual
12 to whom the card is issued;

13 “(III) in the case of a card issued to an indi-
14 vidual after attaining age 16, display a digital
15 image, captured directly by an officer or employee of
16 the Social Security Administration acting in his or
17 her official capacity, of the person to whom the so-
18 cial security account number was issued and the
19 date on which that image was captured; and

20 “(IV) contain an encrypted, machine-readable
21 electronic record which shall include records of bio-
22 metric identifiers unique to the individual to whom
23 the card is issued, including a copy of any digitized
24 facial image printed on the face of the card pursuant
25 to subclause (III).

1 “(iii) The Commissioner shall take such actions as
2 are necessary to ensure that replacement cards meeting
3 the requirements of clause (ii)(III) are issued to individ-
4 uals upon attaining age 16.

5 “(iv) The Commissioner may charge a reasonable fee
6 to the recipient as a condition for issuance of a social secu-
7 rity card under this subparagraph to an individual de-
8 scribed in subparagraph (B)(ii). Fees charged under this
9 clause shall be in amounts not greater than amounts nec-
10 essary to meet the administrative costs attributable to the
11 requirements of clauses (ii) and (iii) of this subparagraph.
12 Amounts received by the Commissioner under this clause
13 shall be deposited in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors
14 Insurance Trust Fund and shall be available for use by
15 the Commissioner solely for purposes of meeting such re-
16 quirements.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
18 subsection (a) of this section shall apply with respect to
19 social security cards issued after 2 years after the date
20 of the enactment of this Act. Nothing in this Act or the
21 amendments made thereby shall be construed to require
22 the reissuance of a social security card that has been
23 issued during or prior to such 2-year period in a form that
24 meets the standards established in such amendments, un-
25 less the reissuance of such card is determined by the Com-

- 1 missioner of Social Security to be necessary by reason of
- 2 loss or theft of, or damage to, the card.

