H. R. 1052

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that changes to the Consumer Price Index used in making increases in Social Security benefits shall be restricted to changes specifically authorized by law.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 13, 1997

Mr. Kleczka (for himself and Mr. Frank of Massachusetts) 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 provide that changes to the Consumer Price Index used in making increases in social security benefits shall be restricted to changes specifically authorized by law.
 - 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 "Cost of Living Ac-
 - 5 countability Act of 1997".

1	SEC. 2. CHANGES TO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX USED IN
2	MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO SOCIAL SECURITY
3	BENEFITS RESTRICTED TO CHANGES SPE-
4	CIFICALLY AUTHORIZED BY LAW.
5	Section 215(i)(1) of the Social Security Act (42
6	U.S.C. 415(i)(1)) is amended—
7	(1) in subparagraph (G), by striking "quarter."
8	and inserting "quarter; and"; and
9	(2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
10	paragraph:
11	"(H) on and after the date of the enactment of
12	the Cost of Living Accountability Act of 1997, the
13	Consumer Price Index referred to in the preceding
14	provisions of this paragraph shall be prepared under
15	rules governing the market basket and other ele-
16	ments relevant in preparing such Index which are
17	identical to those which were applicable in preparing
18	such Index in connection with increases under this
19	subsection last determined before such date, except
20	to the extent otherwise provided by law enacted after
21	such date and referring to this subparagraph.".