

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 577

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of severe spinal cord injury equivalent to the treatment of blindness in determining whether earnings derived from services demonstrate an ability to engage in substantial gainful activity.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 1997

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of severe spinal cord injury equivalent to the treatment of blindness in determining whether earnings derived from services demonstrate an ability to engage in substantial gainful activity.

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. TREATMENT OF SEVERE SPINAL CORD INJURY**  
2 **EQUIVALENT TO TREATMENT OF BLINDNESS**  
3 **IN DETERMINING SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL AC-**  
4 **TIVITY.**

5 Section 223(d)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42  
6 U.S.C. 423(d)(4)(A)) is amended in the second sentence  
7 by inserting “, or who has an impairment consisting of  
8 spinal cord injury which is alone of sufficient medical se-  
9 verity as to otherwise be the sole basis of eligibility under  
10 this section,” after “who is blind”.

11 **SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

12 The amendment made by section 1 shall apply with  
13 respect to determinations (of whether an individual is able  
14 to engage in substantial gainful activity) made after the  
15 date of the enactment of this Act. Benefits which would  
16 not be payable but for such amendment shall be payable  
17 solely for months beginning after 180 days after the date  
18 of the enactment of this Act.

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