

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1107

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to waive the waiting period otherwise required for disability beneficiaries in the case of individuals suffering from terminal illnesses with not more than six months to live.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 1999

Mr. WATKINS 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 waive the waiting period otherwise required for disability beneficiaries in the case of individuals suffering from terminal illnesses with not more than six months to live.

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 “Terminal Disability  
5       Fairness and Equity Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. WAITING PERIOD FOR SOCIAL SECURITY DISABIL-**  
2 **ITY BENEFICIARIES INAPPLICABLE TO INDIV-**  
3 **IDUALS WITH TERMINAL ILLNESSES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223(a)(1) of the Social  
5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(a)(1)) is amended, in clause  
6 (ii) of the first sentence—

7 (1) by inserting “(I)” after “but only if”, and  
8 (2) by inserting “or (II) he has a terminal ill-  
9 ness (as defined in subsection (j)),” after “under  
10 such disability,”.

11 (b) TERMINAL ILLNESS DEFINED.—Section 223 of  
12 such Act (42 U.S.C. 423) is amended by adding at the  
13 end the following new subsection:

14 “Definition of Terminal Illness

15 “(j) As used in this section, the term ‘terminal illness’  
16 means, in the case of any individual, a medically deter-  
17 minable physical impairment which is expected to result  
18 in the death of such individual within the next six  
19 months.”.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
21 this section shall apply with respect to benefits for which  
22 applications are filed on or after the date of the enactment  
23 of this Act.

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