

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2518

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit disclosure of Social Security numbers on Medicare-related mailings.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2005

Mr. FILNER (for himself and Mr. FOLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit disclosure of Social Security numbers on Medicare-related mailings.

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 “Stop the Theft of Our  
5 Social Security Numbers Act of 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF DISCLOSURE OF SOCIAL SECUR-**  
2 **RITY NUMBERS ON MEDICARE-RELATED**  
3 **MAILINGS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1874 of the Social Secu-  
5 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395kk) is amended by adding at the  
6 end the following new subsection:

7 “(d)(1) In any case in which an individual’s identi-  
8 fying number for purposes of this title is the social secu-  
9 rity account number issued to such individual for purposes  
10 of section 205(c)(2)(A), no officer or employee of the De-  
11 partment of Health and Human Services may include such  
12 number—

13 “(A) as part of any medicare-related mailing to  
14 any person, including the mailing of any medicare  
15 card that contains such number; or

16 “(B) as part of the contents of any tax-related  
17 mailing to any person unless—

18 “(i) the contents are in an envelope (or  
19 other appropriate wrapper) which is sealed; and

20 “(ii) such number may not be viewed with-  
21 out opening such envelope (or wrapper).

22 “(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term  
23 ‘medicare-related mailing’ means any mailing related  
24 to the administration of this title.”.

25 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
26 subsection (a) shall apply to mailings made on or after

1 the first day of the first month beginning after the date  
2 of the enactment of this Act.

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