

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1199

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to shorten the waiting period for social security disability benefits for individuals with mesothelioma.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 8, 2005

Mr. BURNS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to shorten the waiting period for social security disability benefits for individuals with mesothelioma.

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 “Prompt Disability Pay-
5 ment to Mesothelioma Victims Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress makes the following findings:

8 (1) Mesothelioma is a quickly advancing form
9 of cancer.

1 (2) Most cases of mesothelioma arise from ex-
2 posure to asbestos fibers.

3 (3) The National Cancer Institute estimates
4 that in 2002, approximately 2,000 new mesothe-
5 lioma diagnoses were made in the United States.

6 **SEC. 3. SHORTENED WAITING PERIOD FOR SOCIAL SECU-**
7 **RITY DISABILITY BENEFITS FOR INDIVID-**
8 **UALS WITH MESOTHELIOMA.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223(c)(2) of the Social
10 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423 (c)(2)) is amended—

11 (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),
12 by inserting “(or, in the case of an individual with
13 mesothelioma, 30 days)” after “months”; and

14 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

15 (A) in clause (i), by inserting “(or, in the
16 case of an individual with mesothelioma, the
17 thirteenth month)” after “seventeenth month”;
18 and

19 (B) in clause (ii), by inserting “(or, in the
20 case of an individual with mesothelioma, such
21 thirteenth month)” after “such seventeenth
22 month”.

23 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
24 subsection (a) apply to applications for disability benefits
25 filed or pending on or after the date of enactment of this

- 1 Act and to any individuals with filed applications for such
- 2 benefits as of that date who are within a waiting period
- 3 on such date.

