

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6002

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the waiting period for disability insurance benefits shall not be applicable in the case of a disabled individual suffering from a terminal illness.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2010

Mr. COSTELLO 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 the waiting period for disability insurance benefits shall not be applicable in the case of a disabled individual suffering from a terminal illness.

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 “Terminally Ill Dis-
5 ability Beneficiary Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCEPTION FROM WAITING PERIOD FOR DIS-**
2 **ABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS OF INDIVID-**
3 **UALS SUFFERING FROM TERMINAL ILLNESS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section
5 223(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(a)(1))
6 is amended, in clause (ii) thereof in the matter following
7 subparagraph (E)—

8 (1) by inserting “(I)” after “but only”; and
9 (2) by inserting “or (II) if he has a terminal ill-
10 ness (as defined in paragraph (3)) and his applica-
11 tion for such benefits is filed during his waiting pe-
12 riod (as so defined) which would otherwise be appli-
13 cable under clause (i),” after “the first month in
14 which he is under such disability,”.

15 (b) DEFINITION OF TERMINAL ILLNESS.—Section
16 223(a) of such Act is amended further by adding at the
17 end the following new paragraph:

18 “(3) As used in this subsection, the term ‘terminal
19 illness’ means, in the case of any individual, a medically
20 determinable physical impairment which is expected to re-
21 sult in the death of such individual—

22 “(A) within the next 6 months, or

23 “(B) in the case of such an impairment which
24 consists of a burn injury, within the next 12
25 months.”.

1 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATING TO RET-
 2 ROACTIVE BENEFITS.—Section 223(b) of such Act (42
 3 U.S.C. 423(b)) is amended—

4 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “(b)”;

5 (2) by striking “An individual” and inserting
 6 the following:

7 “(2)(A) An individual”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 9 paragraph:

10 “(B) In any case in which the application for benefits
 11 under this section is filed during a waiting period (as de-
 12 fined in subsection (c)(2)) which is inapplicable solely by
 13 reason of clause (ii)(II) of subsection (a)(1), subparagraph
 14 (A) shall not apply with respect to benefits for months
 15 in such waiting period.”.

16 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with
 18 respect to benefits based on applications filed on or after
 19 the date of the enactment of this Act and benefits based
 20 on applications filed during a waiting period (as defined
 21 in section 223(c)(2) of the Social Security Act) in connec-
 22 tion with such benefits ending after such date.

○