

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5221

To prohibit the use of funds to develop, test, deploy, implement, or administer the Disability Case Processing System, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2018

Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. DESJARLAIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds to develop, test, deploy, implement, or administer the Disability Case Processing System, and for other purposes.

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. ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINIS-**
4 **TRATION DISABILITY CASE PROCESSING SYS-**
5 **TEM.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) In 2014, whistleblowers informed the Com-
8 mittee on Oversight and Government Reform that
9 the Social Security Administration (in this Act re-

ferred to as the “SSA”) has spent nearly \$300,000,000 on a failed information technology modernization project known as the Disability Case Processing System (in this Act referred to as the “DCPS”).

(2) On July 25, 2014, the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Social Security of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives requested that the SSA Inspector General (in this Act referred to as the “SSA IG”) conduct an “investigation into the SSA’s management and failed implementation of the DCPS costing the taxpayers close to \$300 million to date.”.

(3) The SSA IG, in its November 2014 initial report, stated that it had concerns with the SSA’s approach and recommended that the SSA not spend more funds until it determined whether the commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) software could be used.

(4) In May 2016, the SSA IG reported that the SSA had spent over \$300,000,000 on the DCPS project, “for which it would receive little benefit”, and according to the SSA, it would still need \$90,000,000 to \$165,000,000 to deliver the first release of the new Core DCPS between July and December of 2016.

1 (5) The SSA IG reported in September 2016
2 that, since its inception 8 years earlier, the SSA’s
3 reported costs for the DCPS project were
4 \$356,000,000. SSA estimated it would still need an
5 additional \$122,000,000 through 2019 for the
6 project.

7 (6) In its September 2017 report, the SSA IG
8 reported that the SSA’s goals were to deliver full
9 functionality of DCPS by April 2018 and full de-
10 ployment systemwide by September 2019, bringing
11 the total expenditure for the DCPS project to over
12 \$500,000,000. However, even after 3 years of re-
13 porting on DCPS, the SSA IG concluded that “given
14 the uncertainty of the future growth of the backlog
15 and SSA’s ongoing development velocity, we were
16 unable to conclude whether the Agency’s release
17 goals were reasonable.”.

18 (b) PROHIBITION ON FUNDING FOR DCPS.—None of
19 the funds available to the Social Security Administration
20 for any fiscal year may be used to develop, test, deploy,
21 implement, or administer the Disability Case Processing
22 System or any substantially similar program unless spe-
23 cifically authorized by Congress.

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