

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1950

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to return the estate, gift, and generation skipping transfer tax to 2009 levels, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 2019

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

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## A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to return the estate, gift, and generation skipping transfer tax to 2009 levels, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Strengthen Social Se-  
5       curity by Taxing Dynastic Wealth Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTATE AND GIFT TAX RETURNED TO 2009 LEVELS.**

7       (a) ESTATE TAX.—

8              (1) RATE SCHEDULE.—The table contained in  
9              section 2001(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of

1       1986 is amended by striking the last row and insert-  
2       ing the following:

Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,250,000.	\$345,800, plus 41 percent of the excess of such amount over \$1,000,000.
Over \$1,250,000 but not over \$1,500,000.	\$448,300, plus 43 percent of the excess of such amount over \$1,250,000.
Over \$1,500,000 .....	\$555,800, plus 45 percent of the excess of such amount over \$1,500,000.

7               “(3) BASIC EXCLUSION AMOUNT.—For pur-  
8               poses of this subsection, the basic exclusion amount  
9               is \$3,500,000.”.

10 (b) GIFT TAX.—

1       “(d) MODIFICATION OF DECEASED SPOUSAL UN-  
2 USED EXCLUSION AMOUNT.—In the case of a surviving  
3 spouse who is the last spouse of the decedent with respect  
4 to whom an election is made under section 2010(c)(5), the  
5 deceased spousal unused exclusion amount with respect to  
6 such surviving spouse shall be determined as if such  
7 amount were the lesser of—

8                       “(1) \$1,000,000, and

9               “(2) applicable exclusion amount of the dece-  
10          dent reduced by the amount with respect to which  
11          the tentative tax is determined under section  
12          2001(b)(1) on the estate of the decedent.”.

13 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
14 this section shall apply to estates of decedents dying and  
15 gifts made after December 31, 2019.

16 SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF ESTATE AND GIFT TAX REVENUE TO  
17 COMBINED SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND.

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201(a) of the Social Secu-  
19 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 401(a)) is amended to read as follows:

20        "(a) There is hereby created on the books of the  
21 Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known  
22 as the 'Social Security Trust Fund'. The Social Security  
23 Trust Fund shall consist of the securities held by the Sec-  
24 retary of the Treasury for the Federal Old-Age and Sur-  
25 vivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability

1 Insurance Trust Fund and the amount standing to the  
2 credit of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance  
3 Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust  
4 Fund on the books of the Treasury on January 1, 2020,  
5 which securities and amount the Secretary of the Treasury  
6 is authorized and directed to transfer to the Social Secu-  
7 rity Trust Fund, and, in addition, such gifts and bequests  
8 as may be made as provided in subsection (i)(1), and such  
9 amounts as may be appropriated to, or deposited in, the  
10 Social Security Trust Fund as hereinafter provided. There  
11 is hereby appropriated to the Social Security Trust Fund  
12 for the first fiscal year that begins after January 1, 2020,  
13 and for each fiscal year thereafter, out of any moneys in  
14 the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, amounts equiva-  
15 lent to 100 percent of—

16               “(1) the taxes imposed by chapter 21 (other  
17 than sections 3101(b) and 3111(b)) of the Internal  
18 Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to wages (as de-  
19 fined in section 3121 of such Code) reported to the  
20 Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to subtitle F of  
21 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as determined  
22 by the Secretary of the Treasury by applying the ap-  
23 plicable rates of tax under such chapter (other than  
24 sections 3101(b) and 3111(b)) to such wages, which  
25 wages shall be certified by the Commissioner of So-

1       cial Security on the basis of the records of wages es-  
2       tablished and maintained by such Commissioner in  
3       accordance with such reports;

4           “(2) the taxes imposed by chapter 2 (other than  
5           section 1401(b)) of the Internal Revenue Code of  
6           1986 with respect to self-employment income (as de-  
7           fined in section 1402 of such Code) reported to the  
8           Secretary of the Treasury on tax returns under sub-  
9           title F of such Code, as determined by the Secretary  
10          of the Treasury by applying the applicable rate of  
11          tax under such chapter (other than section 1401(b))  
12          to such self-employment income, which self-employ-  
13          ment income shall be certified by the Commissioner  
14          of Social Security on the basis of the records of self-  
15          employment income established and maintained by  
16          the Commissioner of Social Security in accordance  
17          with such returns; and

18           “(3) the taxes imposed by subtitle B of the In-  
19          ternal Revenue Code of 1986, as determined by the  
20          Secretary of the Treasury on the basis of tax returns  
21          under subpart C of part II of subchapter A of chap-  
22          ter 61 of subtitle F of such Code.

23      The amounts appropriated by paragraphs (1), (2), and (3)  
24      shall be transferred from time to time from the general  
25      fund in the Treasury to the Social Security Trust Fund,

1 such amounts to be determined on the basis of estimates  
2 by the Secretary of the Treasury of the taxes, specified  
3 in such paragraphs, paid to or deposited into the Treas-  
4 ury; and proper adjustments shall be made in amounts  
5 subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates  
6 were in excess of or were less than the taxes specified in  
7 such paragraphs. All amounts transferred to the Social  
8 Security Trust Fund under the preceding sentence shall  
9 be invested by the Managing Trustee in the same manner  
10 and to the same extent as the other assets of the Trust  
11 Fund. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, in any  
12 case in which the Secretary of the Treasury determines  
13 that the assets of the Trust Fund would otherwise be inad-  
14 equate to meet the Trust Fund's obligations for any  
15 month, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the  
16 Trust Fund on the first day of such month the total  
17 amount which would have been transferred to the Trust  
18 Fund under this section as in effect on October 1, 1990;  
19 and the Trust Fund shall pay interest to the general fund  
20 on the amount so transferred on the first day of any  
21 month at a rate (calculated on a daily basis, and applied  
22 against the difference between the amount so transferred  
23 on such first day and the amount which would have been  
24 transferred to the Trust Fund up to that day under the  
25 procedures in effect on January 1, 1983) equal to the rate

1 earned by the investments of the Trust Fund in the same  
2 month under subsection (d).”.

3 (b) REQUIRED ACTUARIAL ANALYSIS.—Section  
4 201(c) of the Social Security Act is amended by striking  
5 the fourth sentence in the matter following paragraph (5)  
6 and inserting the following: “Such report shall also include  
7 actuarial analysis of the benefit cost with respect to dis-  
8 abled beneficiaries and their auxiliaries, to retired bene-  
9 ficiaries and their auxiliaries, and to survivor bene-  
10 ficiaries.”.

11 (c) BOARD OF TRUSTEES.—

12 (1) BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SOCIAL SECURITY  
13 TRUST FUND.—Section 201(c) of the Social Security  
14 Act, as amended by subsection (b) of this section, is  
15 further amended in the matter preceding paragraph  
16 (1) by striking “the Federal Old-Age and Survivors  
17 Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability  
18 Insurance Trust Fund (hereinafter in this title  
19 called the ‘Trust Funds’)” and inserting “the Social  
20 Security Trust Fund (in this title referred to as the  
21 ‘Trust Fund’)”.

22 (2) CONTINUITY OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.—  
23 The Board of Trustees of the Social Security Trust  
24 Fund created by the amendment made by subsection  
25 (a) shall be a continuous body with the Board of

1 Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors In-  
2 surance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability In-  
3 surance Trust Fund in operation prior to the effec-  
4 tive date of such amendment. Individuals serving as  
5 members of the Board of Trustees of the Federal  
6 Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and  
7 the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund as of  
8 the effective date of such amendment shall serve the  
9 remainder of their term as members of the Board of  
10 Trustees of the Social Security Trust Fund.

11 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS RELATED TO So-  
12 CIAL SECURITY TRUST FUND.—

13 (1) AMENDMENT TO SECTION HEADING.—The  
14 section heading for section 201 of the Social Secu-  
15 rity Act is amended to read as follows: “SOCIAL SE-  
16 CURITY TRUST FUND”.

17 (2) BOARD OF TRUSTEES.—Section 201(c) of  
18 such Act, as amended by subsections (b) and (c)(1),  
19 is further amended—

20 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),  
21 by striking “Board of Trustees of the Trust  
22 Funds” and inserting “Board of Trustees of  
23 the Trust Fund”;

24 (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “Trust  
25 Funds” and inserting “Trust Fund”;

- 1                             (C) in paragraph (2)—  
2                                 (i) by striking “Trust Funds” and in-  
3                                 serting “Trust Fund”; and  
4                                 (ii) by striking “their” and inserting  
5                                 “its”;  
6                             (D) in paragraph (3), by striking “either  
7                                 of the Trust Funds” and inserting “the Trust  
8                                 Fund”;  
9                             (E) in paragraph (5)—  
10                                 (i) by striking “managing the Trust  
11                                 Funds” and inserting “managing the  
12                                 Trust Fund”; and  
13                                 (ii) by striking “Trust Funds are”  
14                                 and inserting “Trust Fund is”;  
15                             (F) in the matter following paragraph (5),  
16                                 by striking “Trust Funds” each place it ap-  
17                                 pears and inserting “Trust Fund”; and  
18                             (G) in the second sentence in the matter  
19                                 following paragraph (5), by striking “whether  
20                                 the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance  
21                                 Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insur-  
22                                 ance Trust Fund, individually and collectively,  
23                                 are” and inserting “whether the Social Security  
24                                 Trust Fund is”.

1                         (3) INVESTMENTS.—Section 201 of such Act is  
2       amended in subsections (d) and (e) by striking  
3       “Trust Funds” each place it appears and inserting  
4       “Trust Fund”.

5                         (4) CREDITING OF INTEREST AND PROCEEDS  
6       TO TRUST FUNDS.—Section 201(f) of such Act is  
7       amended—

8                             (A) by striking “the Federal Old-Age and  
9       Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Fed-  
10      eral Disability Insurance Trust Fund shall be  
11      credited to and form a part of the Federal Old-  
12      Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and  
13      the Disability Insurance Trust Fund, respec-  
14      tively” and inserting “the Social Security Trust  
15      Fund shall be credited to and form a part of  
16      the Social Security Trust Fund”;

17                             (B) by striking “either of the Trust  
18      Funds” and inserting “the Trust Fund”; and

19                             (C) by striking “such Trust Fund” and in-  
20      serting “the Trust Fund”.

21                         (5) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 201(g) of  
22       such Act is amended—

23                             (A) in paragraph (1)—

24                                 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
25       “Of the amounts authorized to be made

1                   available out of the Federal Old-Age and  
2                   Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the  
3                   Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund  
4                   under the preceding sentence” and all that  
5                   follows through “(Public Law 103–296).”;

6                         (ii) in subparagraph (B)(i)—  
7                                 (I) by striking subclauses (II)  
8                                         and (III) and inserting the following:  
9                                 “(II) the portion of such costs which  
10                                 should have been borne by the Social Security  
11                                 Trust Fund,”; and

12                         (II) by redesignating subclauses  
13                                 (IV) and (V) as subclauses (III) and  
14                                         (IV);

15                         (B) in paragraph (2)—  
16                                 (i) by striking “Trust Funds” and in-  
17                                         serting “Trust Fund”; and

18                                 (ii) by striking the last sentence; and  
19                         (C) in paragraph (4), by striking “Trust  
20                                 Funds” each place it appears and inserting  
21                                         “Trust Fund”.

22                         (6) BENEFIT PAYMENTS.—Section 201(h) of  
23                                 such Act is amended to read as follows:

1       “(h) All benefit payments required to be made under  
2 this title shall be made only from the Social Security Trust  
3 Fund.”.

4                     (7) GIFTS.—Section 201(i) of such Act is  
5 amended—

6                         (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “the  
7                         Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust  
8                         Fund, the Federal Disability Insurance Trust  
9                         Fund” and inserting “the Social Security Trust  
10                         Fund”; and

11                         (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “the  
12                         Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust  
13                         Fund” and inserting “the Social Security Trust  
14                         Fund”.

15                     (8) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Section 201(j) of such  
16                     Act is amended by striking “the Federal Old-Age  
17                         and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, or the Federal  
18                         Disability Insurance Trust Fund (as determined ap-  
19                         propriate by the Commissioner of Social Security)”  
20                         and inserting “the Social Security Trust Fund”.

21                     (9) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—Section  
22                     201(k) of such Act is amended by striking “the Fed-  
23                         eral Disability Insurance Trust Fund and the Fed-  
24                         eral Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund,  
25                         as determined appropriate by the Commissioner of

1        Social Security” and inserting “the Social Security  
2        Trust Fund”.

3                (10) BENEFIT CHECKS.—Section 201(m) of  
4        such Act is amended—

5                        (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “each of  
6        the Trust Funds” and inserting “the Social Se-  
7        curity Trust Fund”;

8                        (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “one of  
9        the Trust Funds” and inserting “the Trust  
10      Fund”; and

11                        (C) by striking “such Trust Fund” each  
12      place it appears and inserting “the Trust  
13      Fund”.

14                (11) CONFORMING REPEALS.—

15                        (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 201 of such  
16      Act is amended by striking subsections (b), (l),  
17      and (n).

18                        (B) REDESIGNATIONS.—Section 201 of  
19      such Act is further amended—

20                                (i) by redesignating subsections (c)  
21      through (j) as subsections (b) through (i),  
22      respectively;

23                                (ii) by redesignating subsection (k) as  
24      subsection (j); and

(iii) by redesignating subsection (m) as subsection (k).

3 (C) REFERENCES TO REDESIGNATED SEC-  
4 TIONS.—

8 (I) by striking “subsection  
9 (i)(1)” and inserting “subsection  
10 (h)(1)”; and

11 (II) by striking “subsection (d)”  
12 and inserting “subsection (c)”

16 (e) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO SOCIAL  
17 SECURITY ACT —

(B) in section 206(d)(5), by striking “the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, as appropriate” and inserting “the Social Security Trust Fund”;

16 (E) in section 215(i)(1)(F)—

17 (i) in clause (i)—

(II) by striking “and reduced by

the outstanding amount of any loan (including interest thereon) theretofore made to either such Fund from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under section 201(l)"; and

(ii) in clause (ii)—

(I) by striking “the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund” and inserting “the Social Security Trust Fund”; and

(II) by striking “(other than payments” and all that follows through “from that Account”;

in section 217(g)(2), by inserting after  
sentence the following: “For purposes  
such revision of the amount determined  
paragraph (1) that occurs in a year after  
any reference in such paragraph to the  
Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust  
the Federal Disability Insurance Trust  
shall be deemed to be a reference to the  
security Trust Fund.”;

1 (G) in section 221(e)—

2                   (i) by striking “Trust Funds” each  
3 place it appears and inserting “Trust  
4 Fund”; and

5                   (ii) by striking the last sentence;

6 (H) in section 221(f), by striking “Trust  
7 Funds” and inserting “Trust Fund”;

8 (I) in section 222(d)—

9                   (i) in the section heading, by striking  
0 “TRUST FUNDS” and inserting “TRUST  
1 FUND”;

2                   (ii) in paragraph (1), by striking “to  
3 the end that savings will accrue to the  
4 Trust Funds as a result of rehabilitating  
5 such individuals, there are authorized to be  
6 transferred from the Federal Old-Age and  
7 Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the  
8 Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund”  
9 and inserting “to the end that savings will  
20 accrue to the Trust Fund as a result of re-  
21 habilitating such individuals, there are au-  
22 thorized to be transferred from the Social  
23 Security Trust Fund”; and

24                   (iii) by amending paragraph (4) to  
25 read as follows:

1       “(4) The Commissioner of Social Security shall deter-  
2 mine according to such methods and procedures as the  
3 Commissioner may deem appropriate the total amount to  
4 be reimbursed for the cost of services under this sub-  
5 section.”;

6 (J) in section 228(g)—

15 (K) in section 231(c), by striking “Trust  
16 Funds” each place it appears and inserting  
17 “Trust Fund”; and

(2) TITLE VII.—Title VII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) is amended—

(B) in section 708(c), by striking “the ‘OASDI trust fund ratio’ under section 201(l),” after “computing”;

4 (C) in section 709—

10 (ii) in subsection (b)—

11 (I) in paragraph (1), by striking  
12 “section 201(l) or”; and

19 (D) in section 710—

(ii) in subsection (b)—

22 (C) in sections 1131(b)(2) and 1140(c)(2),  
23 by striking “the Federal Old-Age and Survivors  
24 Insurance Trust Fund” and inserting “the So-  
25 cial Security Trust Fund”;

- 1                             (D) in section 1145(c)—  
2                                 (i) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2)  
3                                 and inserting the following:  
4                                 “(1) the Social Security Trust Fund;”; and  
5                                 (ii) by redesignating paragraphs (3)  
6                                 and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respec-  
7                                 tively; and  
8                             (E) in section 1148(j)(1)(A)—  
9                                 (i) in the first sentence, by striking  
10                                 “the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insur-  
11                                 ance Trust Fund and the Federal Dis-  
12                                 ability Insurance Trust Fund” and insert-  
13                                 ing “the Social Security Trust Fund”; and  
14                                 (ii) by striking the second sentence.  
15                             (4) TITLE XVIII.—Title XVIII of the Social Se-  
16                                 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395) is amended—  
17                                 (A) in section 1817(g), by striking “Fed-  
18                                 eral Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust  
19                                 Fund and from the Federal Disability Insur-  
20                                 ance Trust Fund” and inserting “Social Secu-  
21                                 rity Trust Fund”;  
22                                 (B) in section 1840(a)(2), by striking  
23                                 “Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance  
24                                 Trust Fund or the Federal Disability Insurance

1           Trust Fund” and inserting “Social Security  
2           Trust Fund”; and

3           (C) in section 1841(f), by striking “Fed-  
4           eral Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust  
5           Fund and from the Federal Disability Insur-  
6           ance Trust Fund” and inserting “Social Secu-  
7           rity Trust Fund”.

8           (f) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS OUTSIDE OF SOCIAL  
9           SECURITY ACT.—

10          (1) BUDGET.—

11           (A) OFF-BUDGET EXEMPTION.—Section  
12          405(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of  
13          1974 (2 U.S.C. 655(a)) is amended by striking  
14          “Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and  
15          Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds” and  
16          inserting “Social Security Trust Fund”.

17           (B) SEQUESTRATION EXEMPTION.—Sec-  
18          tion 255(g)(1)(A) of the Balanced Budget and  
19          Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2  
20          U.S.C. 905(g)(1)(A)) is amended by striking  
21          “Payments to Social Security Trust Funds”  
22          and inserting “Payments to the Social Security  
23          Trust Fund”.

24          (2) TAX.—



4 (A) in subparagraph (B)—

(ii) by striking “Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund” and inserting “Social Security Trust Fund”; and

11 (B) in subparagraph (C)—

12 (i) by striking “Secretary of Health  
13 and Human Services” and inserting “Com-  
14 missioner of Social Security”; and

1 (B) in subsection (c)(2)—

16 (g) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Effective beginning  
17 on January 1, 2020, any reference in law to the “Federal  
18 Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund” or the  
19 “Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund” is deemed to  
20 be a reference to the Social Security Trust Fund.

21 (h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22 this section shall take effect on January 1, 2020.

