

S 238

Social Security Number Misuse Prevention Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Crime and Law Enforcement

Introduced: Jan 10, 2007

Current Status: Committee on the Judiciary Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. Hearings held. Wi

Latest Action: Committee on the Judiciary Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 110-62. (Mar 21, 2007)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/238>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gregg, Judd [R-NH]	R · NH		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Sununu, John E. [R-NH]	R · NH		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jan 18, 2007
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Feb 12, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Mar 21, 2007

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 5234	Related bill	Feb 25, 2008: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Social Security Number Misuse Prevention Act - Amends the federal criminal code to prohibit the display, sale, or purchase of Social Security numbers without the affirmatively expressed consent of the individual, except in specified circumstances. Directs the Attorney General to study and report to Congress on all the uses of Social Security numbers permitted, required, authorized, or excepted under any federal law, including the impact of such uses on privacy and data security.

Establishes a public records exception to the prohibition. Directs the Comptroller General to study and report to Congress on Social Security numbers in public records. Grants the Attorney General rulemaking authority to enforce this Act's prohibition and to implement and clarify the permitted uses occurring as a result of an interaction between businesses, governments, or business and government.

Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to prohibit: (1) the use of Social Security numbers on checks issued for payment by governmental agencies; and (2) inmate access to Social Security account numbers.

Prohibits a commercial entity from requiring an individual to provide a Social Security number when purchasing a commercial good or service or denying an individual the good or service for refusing to provide that number, with exceptions. Establishes civil and criminal penalties.

Extends civil monetary penalties for misuse of a Social Security number.

Provides for: (1) criminal penalties under SSA title II for the misuse of a Social Security number; (2) civil actions and civil penalties against persons who violate this Act; and (3) federal injunctive authority with respect to any violation by a public entity.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 21, 2007:** Committee on the Judiciary Senate Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 110-62.
- **Jan 10, 2007:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 10, 2007:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S374)
- **Jan 10, 2007:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S374-378)