

S 3003

Protecting Social Security Disability Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: Dec 11, 2014

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Dec 11, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/3003>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Coburn, Tom [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 11, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Protecting Social Security Disability Act of 2014 - Amends title II (Old, Age and Survivors Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to revise the Disability Insurance program to declare any individual who is entitled to both an old-age insurance benefit and a disability insurance benefit for a month to be entitled only to the old-age insurance benefit for that month, except those whose medical improvement is not expected.

Directs the Commissioner of Social Security to establish a system for classifying any individual who is determined to be entitled to disability insurance benefits or to monthly OASDI benefits in a specified manner on the basis of the expectation of medical improvement.

Revises continuing disability review standards.

Time-limits disability benefits for certain individuals.

Prohibits age from being considered a vocational factor for any individual who has not attained the age 12 years below the retirement age.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to require all W-2s to be submitted electronically, with a hardship exception for certain small businesses.

Amends SSAct title II to: (1) eliminate the reconsideration review level for an initial adverse determination of an application for disability insurance benefits, and (2) require any such determination to be reviewed before an administrative law judge (ALJ).

Modifies the deadline for the submission of medical evidence.

Directs the Commissioner to establish: (1) disability hearing attorney positions within the Office of Appellate Operations of the Social Security Administration (SSA), as well as (2) procedural rules for hearings.

Requires attorneys to certify to the Commissioner that they have never been disbarred or suspended from any court or relinquished a license in the face of a misconduct investigation.

Subjects ALJs to the Code of Conduct for United States Judges.

Directs the Commissioner to ensure that all ALJs within the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review receive training on how to evaluate medical evidence appropriately.

Requires the Commissioner to establish rules and regulations relating to the fees payable to representatives of individuals claiming entitlement to disability insurance benefits, in particular to prohibit SSA reimbursement of a representative for travel expenses.

Requires the Inspector General to review the practices of a sample of the highest-earning claimant representatives to ensure compliance with SSA policies.

Directs the Division of Quality of the SSA Office of Appellate Operations to: (1) review a sample of determinations by outlier ALJs that individuals are entitled to disability insurance benefits, and (2) identify any determinations not supported by the evidence.

Requires any amounts made available by the SSA for Social Security program integrity spending to be included in a separate account within the federal budget and funded in a separate account in the appropriate annual appropriations bill.

Requires the Commissioner to consult the National Directory of New Hires when determining whether an individual is making above the substantial gainful activity limits.

Amends SSA title XI to eliminate the Ticket to Work and Self-Sufficiency Program.

Directs the Commissioner to: (1) establish a Work Incentive Benefit System under which an eligible individual entitled to a disability insurance benefit may elect to return to employment and receive an adjusted disability insurance benefit amount, and (2) conduct a demonstration project designed to examine the effectiveness of providing targeted early-intervention support to eligible individuals.

Prohibits an eligible individual who elects to participate in such demonstration project from being eligible for disability assistance for as long as the individual receives assistance through the demonstration project.

Directs the Commissioner to study whether reducing the rate at which an employer is taxed with respect to OASDI in exchange for the employer's offering its employees private disability insurance, and other disability supports, would be an effective means of reducing the rate at which such employees enter the disability insurance program.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 11, 2014:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 11, 2014:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S6627-6628)
- **Dec 11, 2014:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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