

## HR 2359

### Disability Fraud Reduction and Unethical Deception (FRAUD) Prevention Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Social Welfare

**Introduced:** May 15, 2015

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security. (Jun 1, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2359>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		May 15, 2015
Rep. Boustany, Charles W., Jr. [R-LA-3]	R · LA		May 15, 2015
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		May 15, 2015
Rep. Reed, Tom [R-NY-23]	R · NY		May 15, 2015

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 1, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Social Welfare

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 1929	Identical bill	Aug 4, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S6297-6299)

## **Disability Fraud Reduction and Unethical Deception (FRAUD) Prevention Act**

Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to authorize the Social Security Administration (SSA) to disqualify or suspend immediately from appearing as a claimant representative before it any individual who has been convicted of a felony in a federal or state court, or, in the case of an attorney, upon the individual's disbarment from any court or bar to which he or she was previously admitted to practice.

Amends SSAct titles II, VIII (Special Benefits for Certain World War II Veterans), and XVI (Supplemental Security Income) to subject to criminal penalties for fraud any conspiracy to commit specified offenses, and increase criminal as well as civil monetary penalties for certain individuals in positions of trust who commit fraud.

Amends SSAct title II to direct the SSA to establish rules under which fines and other appropriate sanctions may be imposed on claimant representatives for failure to comply with the SSA rules and regulations.

Amends SSAct title XI to: (1) establish a civil monetary penalty for any claimant representative who knowingly charges for services rendered in excess of the maximum fee prescribed by the SSA or allowed by a court, and (2) direct the SSA periodically to adjust civil monetary penalty maximum amounts for inflation.

Requires federal courts (which currently are merely authorized) to order defendants convicted of Social Security fraud to provide restitution to victims in certain cases.

Amends SSAct title II to ban any payment of benefits to individuals on whom a civil monetary penalty is imposed for fraudulently concealing work activity.

Directs the Inspector General of the SSA to conduct biennial reviews of the practices of a sample of the highest earning claimant representatives to ensure compliance with SSA policies.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 1, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.
- **May 15, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **May 15, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.