

HR 5919

Preserving and Reforming SSDI (PAR-SSDI) Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: Jul 18, 2016

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security. (Jul 22, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/5919>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 22, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2005	Related bill	Aug 6, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
114 HR 918	Related bill	Feb 27, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.
114 S 499	Related bill	Feb 12, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Preserving and Reforming SSDI (PAR-SSDI) Act of 2016

This bill amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to:

- direct the Social Security Administration (SSA), in determining whether an individual is under a disability, to make such a determination without regard to the individual's ability to communicate in English;
- prohibit the SSA, in determining whether an individual is under a disability for a month, from considering the individual's vocational background in computing the quarters of coverage requirement unless the individual had not less than 16 quarters of coverage during the 24-quarter period ending with the quarter in which such month occurs; and
- direct the SSA to prepare and implement a complete update of the vocational and educational factors considered in making disability determinations.

The bill declares that for any week in whole or in part within a month that an individual is paid or determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation he or she shall be deemed to have engaged in substantial gainful activity and so be disqualified from receiving Social Security disability benefits after a certain period has elapsed.

The bill also states that, for purposes of determining services rendered by an individual during a period of trial work which will not disqualify the individual for disability benefits, the individual shall be deemed to have rendered services in a month if he or she is entitled to unemployment compensation or trade adjustment assistance for that month.

The bill revises prerequisites for the entitlement of certain individuals under age 65 to SSAct title XVIII (Medicare) part A hospital insurance benefits. The length of time such an individual must be entitled to disability insurance, child's insurance, or widow's insurance benefits, in order to qualify for entitlement to Medicare part A hospital benefits, shall increase from the current 24 months to 60 months.

If the amount of an individual's unearned income for a month is equal to or greater than the monthly income limit for that month, the individual shall be deemed to have engaged in substantial gainful activity for the month for purposes of determining disability insurance benefit payments.

The SSA must receive from an individual and/or the individual's representative, in its entirety and without redaction, all known relevant medical evidence related to a disability claim. Any medical evidence not submitted in its entirety or not furnished by a licensed practitioner shall be excluded in disability determinations.

In determining whether a disability benefits applicant is disabled, the SSA shall not consider medical evidence resulting from a consultative exam with a health care provider unless the application is accompanied by a Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form signed by the health care provider who conducted the exam.

The bill changes the index used to calculate OASDI cost-of-living adjustments to the Chained Price Index for All Urban Consumers.

In any case in which SSA initiates a review of disability benefits for an individual, the review shall include an independent estimate by a qualified Social Security income verification contractor of the individual's monthly income.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 22, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.
- **Jul 18, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 18, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.