

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4551

To require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Older Americans to compute cost-of-living increases for monthly insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 12, 2016

Mr. JOLLY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Older Americans to compute cost-of-living increases for monthly insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act, 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 “Keeping our Promise
5 to Seniors Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR OLDER AMERICANS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics
3 of the Department of Labor shall prepare and publish an
4 index for each calendar month to be known as the “Con-
5 sumer Price Index for Older Americans” that—

6 (1) measures changes over time in the cost of
7 living for a population that consists solely of individ-
8 uals living in the United States who are 62 years of
9 age or older;

10 (2) is specifically designed to reflect the geo-
11 graphic areas in which such individuals reside, the
12 goods and services purchased by such individuals,
13 and the prices typically by such individuals for those
14 goods and services; and

15 (3) is not based on any other consumer price
16 index published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall apply
18 with respect to calendar months beginning after the date
19 that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 3. COMPUTATION OF COST-OF-LIVING INCREASES FOR**
21 **OLD-AGE AND SURVIVOR’S BENEFITS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 215(i) of the Social Secu-
23 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 415(i)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (1)(G), by inserting before the
25 period the following: “, and, with respect to any
26 monthly insurance benefit payable under this title,

1 effective for adjustments under this subsection to
2 the primary insurance amount on which such benefit
3 is based (or to any such benefit under section 227
4 or 228), the applicable Consumer Price Index shall
5 be deemed to be the Consumer Price Index for Older
6 Americans and such primary insurance amount shall
7 be deemed adjusted under this subsection using such
8 Index”; and

9 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking “and by sec-
10 tion 9001” and inserting “, by section 9001”, and
11 by inserting after “1986,” the following: “and by
12 section 3(a) of the Keeping our Promise to Seniors
13 Act,”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS IN APPLICABLE
15 FORMER LAW.—Section 215(i)(1)(C) of such Act, as in
16 effect in December 1978 and applied in certain cases
17 under the provisions of such Act in effect after December
18 1978, is amended by inserting before the period the fol-
19 lowing: “, and, with respect to any monthly insurance ben-
20 efit payable under this title, effective for adjustments
21 under this subsection to the primary insurance amount on
22 which such benefit is based (or to any such benefit under
23 section 227 or 228), the applicable Consumer Price Index
24 shall be deemed to be the Consumer Price Index for Older

1 Americans and such primary insurance amount shall be
2 deemed adjusted under this subsection using such Index”.

3 (c) NO EFFECT ON ADJUSTMENTS UNDER OTHER
4 LAWS.—Section 215(i) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 415(i)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(6) Any provision of law (other than in this title)
8 which provides for adjustment of an amount based on a
9 change in benefit amounts resulting from a determination
10 made under this subsection shall be applied and adminis-
11 tered without regard to the amendments made by section
12 3 of the Keeping our Promise to Seniors Act.”.

13 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
14 paragraph (1) shall apply to determinations made with re-
15 spect to cost-of-living computation quarters beginning
16 after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enact-
17 ment of this Act.

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