

**The National Council of Social Security Management Associations, Inc.**

**SPECIAL REPORT!  
THE WASHINGTON REPORT  
LEGISLATIVE REPORT 21-2000**

October 12, 2000

• **Social Security Administration Preparedness Act of 2000 (H.R. 5447) Introduced**

This bipartisan legislation was introduced on October 11<sup>th</sup>, by Rep. Clay Shaw (R-FL) and is cosponsored by Rep. Benjamin Cardin (D-MD). **The bill exempts LAE from the budget caps and creates a new cap specifically for SSA's administrative costs.** We have been in contact with Social Security Subcommittee staff regarding this legislation and need to take action immediately by gaining support from our individual Members of Congress, OMB and the Congressional Leadership. This bill is absolutely essential to SSA's ability to get needed staffing and resources.

**Again – we need to take action immediately to gain cosponsors for this legislation.** The more cosponsors the bill has, the more likelihood there is that the measure would be attached to another vehicle, i.e. an omnibus. It is unlikely at this late date in the Congressional Session that the bill will go anywhere as a stand-alone piece of legislation.

**Please call your Congressional Representatives (in their Washington, DC offices) immediately about this important legislation.** If you are unable to speak to the Member of Congress directly, you should speak to the Legislative Assistant who handles Social Security issues. Included below are talking points regarding the legislation to assist you. Please contact us if you need additional information regarding the bill.

The Washington Report  
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e-mail: [sarag@mail.greystone-group.com](mailto:sarag@mail.greystone-group.com) or [rachele@mail.greystone-group.com](mailto:rachele@mail.greystone-group.com)

**Talking Points – H.R. 5447 – the Social Security Administration Preparedness Act of 2000**

- **Why this legislation is so important – it addresses the administrative budget needed to meet SSA’s growing workload**
  - **Given the retiring baby boomer generation and the impending retirement wave at SSA, adequate funding for recruitment and training programs is critically important**
- **What we are asking them to do -- We realize that there are only a few days left in the Congressional Session, but we are seeking cosponsors for the legislation in an effort to ensure it is included in the possible omnibus**
- **Provisions of the legislation**
  - **Exempts SSA’s administrative budget from the caps**
  - **Creates a cap specifically for SSA’s administrative costs**
    - **\$7.5 billion for FY2001**
    - **\$8.45 billion for FY2002**
  - **Protects Social Security funding in the future by giving the program’s administrative costs “off budget” status after the budget caps expire**
    - **SSA will still be subject to annual appropriations oversight to ensure the administrative expenses are being spent efficiently**
    - **The critical mission of providing customer-responsive service will no longer be constrained by budgetary rules**
  - **Provides for the technology investment to modernize SSA’s computer systems, improve customer service, and increase agency productivity**
    - **The Commissioner must develop and update biannually a technology plan with the input of private sector experts**
    - **GAO will assess the plan and make recommendations to the committees of jurisdiction**
  - **The Commissioner must document (as mandated in the GPRA) in performance reports how funds have been and will be used to:**
    - **Carry out the mission of SSA**
    - **Meet expected levels of performance**
    - **Achieve modern, customer responsive service**
    - **Protect program integrity**

**Encourage your Member of Congress to cosponsor this legislation. If the Congressional staff have any questions regarding the bill, or if the Member of Congress would like to sign on, they should contact:**

**Republicans – Kim Hildred, Staff Director, House Social Security Subcommittee (202) 225-9263**

**Democrats -- Bill Van Horne, Legislative Assistant, Office of Rep. Benjamin Cardin (202) 225-4016**

**If you need contact information for your Member of Congress, please go to the following website:**

**[www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov)**

Author: James Gottlieb at ~kc735  
Date: 10/13/00 7:04 AM  
Priority: Normal

TO: Brenda F. Carter at KC-Exchange, Mark Chambers at KC-Exchange,  
Jewell Colbert at KC-Exchange, SUSAN ENGLE at KC-Exchange,  
DOROTHY GREENING at KC-Exchange, Sonobia Hampton at KC-Exchange,  
Bill Hunot at KC-Exchange, Bill Lauer at KC-Exchange, TOM MCGINNESS at KC-Exchange,  
Michael Nitzband at KC-Exchange, BUD NOLKER at KC-Exchange, Roger Rech at KC-Exchange,  
Don Schoening at KC-Exchange, TWILA TORRES at ~MAMPSC6, Toni Vaughn at ~KC701,  
IA FO Ames at ~KCB37, IA FO Burlington at ~KC699, IA FO Cedar Rapids at ~KC696,  
IA FO Clinton at ~KCB40, IA FO Creston at ~KC700, IA FO Davenport at ~KC691,  
IA FO Decorah at ~KCB42, IA FO Des Moines TSC at ~KC690, IA FO Des Moines TSC at ~KCE43,  
IA FO Dubuque at ~KC695, IA FO Fort Dodge at ~KC697, IA FO Iowa City at ~KCB34,  
IA FO Mason City at ~KC698, IA FO Oskaloosa at ~KCC56, IA FO Ottumwa at KC-Exchange,  
IA FO Sioux City at ~KC692, IA FO Storm Lake at ~KCC55, IA FO Waterloo at ~KC693,  
KS FO Emporia at ~KCD16, KS FO Hutchinson at ~KC774, KS FO Johnson County at ~KC779,  
KS FO Kansas City at ~KC772, KS FO Lawrence at KC-Exchange,  
KS FO Manhattan at ~KC778, KS FO Pittsburg at ~KC773, KS FO Salina at ~KC770,  
KS FO Topeka at ~KC768, KS FO Wichita at ~KC769, MO FO Cape Girardeau at ~KC739,  
MO FO Clayton at ~KC742, MO FO Columbia at ~KC751, MO FO Gladstone at KC-Exchange,  
MO FO Hannibal at ~KC741, MO FO Jefferson City at ~KC740,  
MO FO KANSAS CITY GATEWAY at ~KC098, MO FO Kansas City South at KC-Exchange,  
MO FO Kansas City TSC at ~KCE14, MO FO Kennett at ~KC752,  
MO FO Kirksville at ~KCB41, MO FO Lebanon at ~KCC52, MO FO Maryville at ~KCC53,  
MO FO MERAMEC VALLEY at ~KCC51, MO FO Moberly at ~KC747, MO FO Nevada at ~KCB35,  
MO FO PARK HILLS at ~KC753, MO FO Sedalia at ~KC743, MO FO Sikeston at ~KCD77,  
MO FO Springfield at ~KC738, MO FO ST. Louis Central West at ~KC099,  
Pat Gaffigan (MO FO ST. Louis Downtown), MO FO ST. Louis North County at ~KCE76,  
MO FO ST. Louis Northeast at ~KCE73, MO FO ST. Louis Northwest at ~KCE75,  
MO FO ST. Louis TSC at ~KCE13, MO FO St. Peters at ~KC734,  
MO FO SUNSET HILLS at ~KCE74, MO FO Union at ~KCB38, MO FO Warrensburg at ~KCD17,  
NE FO Beatrice at ~KC731, NE FO Council Bluffs IA at ~KCC49,  
NE FO Grand Island at ~KC728, NE FO Lincoln at ~KC726, NE FO North Platte at ~KC727,  
NE FO Omaha at ~KC725, NE FO Scottsbluff at ~KC729

Subject: Action!

----- Message Contents -----

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS TO MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS IN YOUR OFFICE.  
THANK YOU.

----- Forward Header -----

Subject: Action!  
Author: "Rachel A. Emmons" <rachele@mail.greystone-group.com> at ##Internet  
Date: 10/12/00 5:50 PM

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Hello Everyone,

Attached please find a Special Report on H.R. 5447. Please note -- This =  
is a "lobbying" activity and needs to be done on your own time. If you =  
have any questions please call us.

Rachel and Sara

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Sara</FONT></DIV></BODY></HTML>
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