

## No Social Security for Nazis Act

## <u>Summary</u>

The *No Social Security for Nazis Act* stops Social Security benefits to those who participated in Nazi persecutions by closing a current-law loophole, which allowed a small number of known Nazis to retain their benefits.

## Background

Recent press stories have highlighted a loophole in the law that allows some Nazis to continue receiving Social Security benefits.

Under the Social Security Act, Social Security benefits are terminated when individuals are deported due to participating in Nazi persecutions. Some individuals whom the Department of Justice identified as Nazi persecutors were denaturalized (stripped of their citizenship), or voluntarily renounced their citizenship, and left the country to avoid formal deportation proceedings. Under current law, these individuals are able to continue receiving Social Security benefits. (The Congressional Budget Office has determined that Social Security is the only U.S. public benefit these denaturalized Nazis living outside the country are able to receive under current law.)

## No Social Security for Nazis Act

The bill's findings reaffirm that Congress never intended the perpetrators of the Nazi persecutions to be allowed to enter the United States or participate in Social Security.

The bill amends the law to:

- Stop benefit payments to those denaturalized due to participation in Nazi persecutions (as defined in the Immigration and Nationality Act) or who voluntarily renounced their citizenship as part of a settlement with the Attorney General related to their participation in Nazi persecution (those who are judicially deported are already ineligible for Social Security under current law),
- Ensure individuals who are ineligible for benefits based on participation in Nazi persecutions do not receive spouse benefits due to marriage to a Social Security beneficiary or Supplemental Security Income benefits, and
- Requires the Attorney General to certify to the Ways and Means Committee and Finance Committee that Social Security has been notified of all those whose benefits should be terminated due to participation in Nazi persecutions and requires the Commissioner of Social Security to certify that benefits were terminated.