

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 3146

**DATE:** April 24, 2008

**Version:** Second Engrossment (as passed in the House)

**Authors:** Hilstrom

**Subject:** Limits on use of Social Security numbers

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### Background

This bill deals with the issue of permissible and nonpermissible uses of an individual's Social Security number. This bill follows up on 2005 legislation, which was enacted with a delayed effective date of July 1, 2007. It was amended in 2006. In 2007, the law was amended again, and the effective date was delayed further to July 1, 2008.

### Section

- 1** **Generally.** (a)(6) Permits use of a Social Security number as the primary account identifier for an employer or member retirement or benefit plan.
- (b) Permits a person or entity to allow its agents, instead of just its employees, to have access to Social Security numbers if necessary to do their jobs. Adds language permitting the employees or agents to have "access to records containing the Social Security numbers," rather than just access to the numbers.
- 2** **Coordination with other law.** (a) Provides that this law does not prevent collection, use, or release of a Social Security number if "authorized" by federal laws, instead of just "required" by federal law.
- (b) Provides that this law does not prevent release of a Social Security number as part of a consumer report, or in a request for such a report, if furnished in connection with a transaction initiated by the consumer or with the consumer's employment, or furnished to a court or law enforcement agency.
- (c) Provides that this law does not prohibit use, disclosure, or release of a Social Security number in connection with the transfer of a loan or other financial asset listed in this

**Section**

paragraph where the value of the asset is based upon ability to verify the identity of an individual that is the subject of the asset.