

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4664

To provide for investment and protection of the Social Security surplus.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 13, 2007

Mr. KUHLMAN of New York introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget and Rules, 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 provide for investment and protection of the Social Security surplus.

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 “Social Security Surplus
5 Protection Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. INVESTMENT OF THE ANNUAL SURPLUS OF THE**
2 **FEDERAL OLD-AGE AND SURVIVORS INSUR-**
3 **ANCE TRUST FUND AND THE FEDERAL DIS-**
4 **ABILITY INSURANCE TRUST FUND.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 201(d) of the Social Secu-
6 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 401(d)) is amended—

7 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “(d)”;

8 (2) by striking “Such investments may be made
9 only” and inserting the following: “Except as pro-
10 vided in paragraph (2), such investments may be
11 made only”;

12 (3) by striking the last sentence; and

13 (4) by adding at the end the following new
14 paragraph:

15 “(2)(A) The Managing Trustee shall, in accordance
16 with policies prescribed in regulations of the Social Secu-
17 rity Surplus Investment Board prescribed under sub-
18 section (o), ensure that amounts in each of the Trust
19 Funds equivalent to the annual surplus for such Trust
20 Fund for any calendar year are made available to the
21 Board on a timely basis for purposes of investment in ac-
22 cordance with subsection (o). Such amounts shall be made
23 available in at least monthly installments and shall be de-
24 termined on the basis of estimates, by the Commissioner
25 and certified to the Secretary of the Treasury, and proper
26 adjustments shall be made in amounts subsequently made

1 available to the extent prior estimates were in excess of
2 or were less than actual amounts.

3 “(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the ‘annual sur-
4 plus’ for either of the Trust Funds for a calendar year
5 is the excess (if any) of—

6 “(i) the sum of—

7 “(I) in the case of the Federal Old-Age
8 and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund, the
9 amounts appropriated to such Trust Fund
10 under paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (a)
11 and attributable to such calendar year,

12 “(II) in the case of the Federal Disability
13 Insurance Trust Fund, the amounts appro-
14 priated to such Trust Fund under paragraphs
15 (1) and (2) of subsection (b) and attributable to
16 such calendar year, and

17 “(III) in either case, the amount appro-
18 priated to such Trust Fund under section
19 121(e) of the Social Security Amendments of
20 1983 and attributable to such calendar year,
21 and any amounts otherwise credited to or de-
22 posited in such Trust Fund under this title at-
23 tributable to such calendar year, over

24 “(ii) the amount estimated by the Commis-
25 sioner to be the total amount to be paid from such

1 Trust Fund during such calendar year for all pur-
2 poses authorized by section 201 (other than pay-
3 ments of interest on, and repayments of, loans from
4 the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under
5 section 201(l)(1), and excluding any transfer pay-
6 ments between the Trust Funds and reducing the
7 amount of any transfer from either of the Trust
8 Funds to the Railroad Retirement Account by the
9 amount of any transfer into such Trust Fund from
10 such Account).

11 “(C) Amounts of either Trust Fund made available
12 to the Social Security Surplus Investment Board under
13 subparagraph (A) for purposes of investment under sub-
14 section (o), and any proceeds from such investment, shall
15 continue to be treated as assets of such Trust Fund, and
16 the Managing Trustee shall ensure that such assets are
17 available as necessary for payment of benefits pursuant
18 to subsection (h).”.

19 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
20 this section shall apply with respect to annual surpluses
21 for calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2009.

22 **SEC. 3. SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUS INVESTMENT BOARD.**

23 Section 201 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
24 401) is amended by adding at the end the following new
25 subsection:

1 “(o) SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUS INVESTMENT
2 BOARD.—

3 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BOARD.—

4 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is estab-
5 lished in the Executive branch of the Govern-
6 ment a Social Security Surplus Investment
7 Board.

8 “(B) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The
9 Board shall be composed of 7 members as fol-
10 lows:

11 “(i) 3 members appointed by the
12 President, of whom 1 shall be designated
13 by the President as Chairman; and

14 “(ii) 4 members appointed by the
15 President, of whom—

16 “(I) 2 shall be appointed by the
17 President after taking into consider-
18 ation the recommendations made by
19 the Speaker of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives in consultation with the
21 minority leader of the House of Rep-
22 resentatives; and

23 “(II) 2 shall be appointed by the
24 President after taking into consider-
25 ation the recommendations made by

1 the majority leader of the Senate in
2 consultation with the minority leader
3 of the Senate.

4 “(C) MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS.—
5 Members of the Board shall have substantial
6 experience, training, and expertise in the man-
7 agement of financial investments and pension
8 benefit plans. No more than 4 of the members
9 of the Board may be of the same political party.

10 “(D) TERMS.—Each member of the Board
11 shall be appointed for a term of 4 years, except
12 that of the members first appointed—

13 “(i) the Chairman shall be appointed
14 for a term of 4 years;

15 “(ii) the remaining members ap-
16 pointed under subsection (B)(i) shall be
17 appointed for terms of 3 years;

18 “(iii) one of the members appointed
19 under subsection (B)(ii)(I) shall be ap-
20 pointed for a term of 4 years and the other
21 for a term of two years; and

22 “(iv) one of the members appointed
23 under subsection (B)(ii)(II) shall be ap-
24 pointed for a term of 4 years and the other
25 for a term of 2 years.

1 “(E) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the
2 Board shall be filled in the manner in which the
3 original appointment was made and shall be
4 subject to any conditions which applied with re-
5 spect to the original appointment. An individual
6 chosen to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for
7 the unexpired term of the member replaced.
8 The term of any member shall not expire before
9 the date on which the member’s successor takes
10 office.

11 “(2) POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall have
13 powers and duties solely as provided in this
14 subsection. The Board shall by regulation pro-
15 vide for investment of amounts in the Federal
16 Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund
17 and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust
18 Fund made available to the Board under sub-
19 section (d)(2)(A) for purposes of investment, in-
20 cluding policies to be followed in allocating in-
21 vestments among different forms of investment
22 and meeting the requirements of subparagraph
23 (F) of this paragraph and of paragraph (4).

24 “(B) BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS.—The
25 Board shall prepare and submit to the Presi-

1 dent and to the appropriate committees of Con-
2 gress an annual budget of the expenses and
3 other items relating to the Board which shall be
4 included as a separate item in the budget re-
5 quired to be transmitted to the Congress under
6 section 1105 of title 31, United States Code.
7 The Board shall provide for low administrative
8 costs such that, to the extent practicable, over-
9 all administrative costs of the Board in connec-
10 tion with investments made pursuant to sub-
11 paragraph (A) do not exceed 30 basis points
12 per year in relation to assets under manage-
13 ment by the Board.

14 “(C) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE
15 BOARD.—The Board may—

16 “(i) adopt, alter, and use a seal;

17 “(ii) establish policies under this sub-
18 section with which the Commissioner shall
19 comply; and

20 “(iii) appoint and remove the Execu-
21 tive Director, as provided in paragraph (2).

22 “(D) MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.—The
23 Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman or
24 upon the request of a quorum of the Board.
25 The Board shall perform the functions and ex-

1 exercise the powers of the Board on a majority
2 vote of a quorum of the Board. Four members
3 of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the
4 transaction of business.

5 “(E) COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEM-
6 BERS.—

7 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each member of
8 the Board who is not an officer or em-
9 ployee of the Federal Government shall be
10 compensated at the daily rate of basic pay
11 for level IV of the Executive Schedule for
12 each day during which such member is en-
13 gaged in performing a function of the
14 Board. Any member who is such an officer
15 or employee shall not suffer any loss of pay
16 or deduction from annual leave on the
17 basis of any time used by such member in
18 performing such a function.

19 “(ii) TRAVEL, PER DIEM, AND EX-
20 PENSES.—A member of the Board shall be
21 paid travel, per diem, and other necessary
22 expenses under subchapter I of chapter 57
23 of title 5, United States Code, while trav-
24 eling away from such member’s home or

1 regular place of business in the perform-
2 ance of the duties of the Board.

3 “(F) STANDARD FOR BOARD’S DISCHARGE
4 OF RESPONSIBILITIES.—The members of the
5 Board shall discharge their responsibilities sole-
6 ly in the interest of the Federal Old-Age and
7 Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Fed-
8 eral Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

9 “(G) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Board shall
10 submit an annual report to the President, to
11 each House of the Congress, and to the Board
12 of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Sur-
13 vivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal
14 Disability Insurance Trust Fund regarding the
15 exercise of its duties under this subsection.
16 Such report shall include a comparison, for the
17 year covered by the report, of the rate of return
18 on investments of assets of the Trust Funds
19 made pursuant to subsection (d)(2) to the rate
20 of return on investments of assets of the Trust
21 Funds otherwise made under subsection (d).

22 “(H) PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT.—

23 “(i) DEFINITION.—For purposes of
24 this subparagraph, the term ‘qualified pub-
25 lic accountant’ shall have the same mean-

1 ing as provided in section 103(a)(3)(D) of
2 the Employee Retirement Income Security
3 Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1023(a)(3)(D)).

4 “(ii) ENGAGEMENT.—The Executive
5 Director, in consultation with the Board,
6 shall annually engage an independent
7 qualified public accountant, who shall con-
8 duct an examination of all records main-
9 tained in the administration of the require-
10 ments of this subsection that the public ac-
11 countant considers necessary.

12 “(iii) DUTIES.—The public account-
13 ant conducting an examination under
14 clause (ii) shall determine whether the
15 records referred to in such clause have
16 been maintained in conformity with gen-
17 erally accepted accounting principles. The
18 public accountant shall transmit to the
19 Board a report on his examination.

20 “(iv) RELIANCE ON CERTIFIED ACTU-
21 ARIAL MATTERS.—In making a determina-
22 tion under clause (iii), a public accountant
23 may rely on the correctness of any actu-
24 arial matter certified by an enrolled actu-
25 ary if the public accountant states his reli-

1 ance in the report transmitted to the
2 Board under such clause.

3 “(3) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—

4 “(A) APPOINTMENT AND REMOVAL.—The
5 Board shall appoint, without regard to the pro-
6 visions of law governing appointments in the
7 competitive service, an Executive Director by
8 action agreed to by a majority of the members
9 of the Board. The Executive Director shall have
10 substantial experience, training, and expertise
11 in the management of financial investments and
12 pension benefit plans. The Board may, with the
13 concurrence of 4 members of the Board, remove
14 the Executive Director from office for good
15 cause shown.

16 “(B) POWERS AND DUTIES OF EXECUTIVE
17 DIRECTOR.—The Executive Director shall—

18 “(i) carry out the policies established
19 by the Board,

20 “(ii) administer the provisions of this
21 subsection in accordance with the policies
22 of the Board, and

23 “(iii) meet from time to time with the
24 Board upon request of the Board.

1 “(C) ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES OF
2 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Executive Direc-
3 tor may—

4 “(i) appoint such personnel as may be
5 necessary to carry out the provisions of
6 this subsection,

7 “(ii) subject to approval by the Board,
8 procure the services of experts and consult-
9 ants under section 3109 of title 5, United
10 States Code,

11 “(iii) secure directly from any agency
12 or instrumentality of the Federal Govern-
13 ment on a reimbursable basis any informa-
14 tion which, in the judgment of the Execu-
15 tive Director, is necessary to carry out the
16 provisions of this subsection and the poli-
17 cies of the Board, and which shall be pro-
18 vided by such agency or instrumentality
19 upon the request of the Executive Director,

20 “(iv) pay the compensation, per diem,
21 and travel expenses of individuals ap-
22 pointed under clauses (i), (ii), and (v) of
23 this subparagraph, subject to such limits
24 as may be established by the Board,

1 “(v) accept and use the services of in-
2 dividuals employed intermittently in the
3 Government service and reimburse such in-
4 dividuals for travel expenses, as authorized
5 by section 5703 of title 5, United States
6 Code, including per diem as authorized by
7 section 5702 of such title, and

8 “(vi) except as otherwise expressly
9 prohibited by law or the policies of the
10 Board, delegate any of the Executive Di-
11 rector’s functions to such employees under
12 the Board as the Executive Director may
13 designate and authorize such successive re-
14 delegations of such functions to such em-
15 ployees under the Board as the Executive
16 Director may consider to be necessary or
17 appropriate.

18 “(4) FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Rules similar to the
20 provisions of section 8477 of title 5, United
21 States Code (relating to fiduciary responsibil-
22 ities; liability and penalties) shall apply in con-
23 nection with assets placed under the control of
24 the Board for purposes of investment, in ac-
25 cordance with regulations which shall be issued

1 by the Board. The Board shall issue regulations
2 with respect to the investigative authority of ap-
3 propriate Federal agencies in cases involving
4 such assets.

5 “(B) EXCULPATORY PROVISIONS VOID-
6 ED.—Any provision in an agreement or instru-
7 ment which purports to relieve a fiduciary from
8 responsibility or liability for any responsibility,
9 obligation, or duty under this subsection shall
10 be void.

11 “(5) CIVIL ACTIONS BY BOARD.—If any person
12 fails to meet any requirement of this subsection or
13 regulations prescribed thereunder or of any contract
14 entered into under this subsection, the Board may
15 bring a civil action in any district court of the
16 United States within the jurisdiction of which such
17 person’s assets are located or in which such person
18 resides or is found, without regard to the amount in
19 controversy, for appropriate relief to redress the vio-
20 lation or enforce the requirement, and process in
21 such an action may be served in any district.

22 “(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
23 There are authorized to be appropriated to the
24 Board, for fiscal years beginning on or after October

1 1, 2008, such sums as are necessary to carry out the
 2 Board's duties under this subsection.”.

3 **SEC. 4. PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUSES.**

4 (a) PROTECTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY SUR-
 5 PLUSES.—Title III of the Congressional Budget Act of
 6 1974 is amended by adding at the end the following new
 7 section:

8 “SAFEGUARDING SOCIAL SECURITY SURPLUSES

9 “SEC. 316. (a) IN GENERAL.—

10 “(1) CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS ON THE
 11 BUDGET.—It shall not be in order in the House of
 12 Representatives or the Senate to consider any con-
 13 current resolution on the budget, or an amendment
 14 thereto or conference report thereon, that would set
 15 forth a deficit for any fiscal year for which there is
 16 a projected net surplus in the Federal Old-Age and
 17 Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal
 18 Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

19 “(2) SPENDING AND TAX LEGISLATION.—It
 20 shall not be in order in the House of Representatives
 21 or the Senate to consider any bill, joint resolution,
 22 amendment, motion, or conference report if—

23 “(A) the enactment of that bill or resolu-
 24 tion, as reported;

25 “(B) the adoption and enactment of that
 26 amendment; or

1 “(C) the enactment of that bill or resolu-
2 tion in the form recommended in that con-
3 ference report,
4 would cause a deficit for any fiscal year for which
5 there is a projected net surplus in the Federal Old-
6 Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the
7 Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund.

8 “(b) ENFORCEMENT.—

9 “(1) BUDGETARY LEVELS WITH RESPECT TO
10 CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS ON THE BUDGET.—For
11 purposes of enforcing any point of order under sub-
12 section (a)(1), the extent to which there is a deficit
13 for any fiscal year shall be determined on the basis
14 of budgetary aggregates set forth in the later of the
15 concurrent resolution on the budget, as reported, or
16 in the conference report on the concurrent resolution
17 on the budget, adjusted to the maximum extent al-
18 lowable under all procedures that allow budgetary
19 aggregates to be adjusted for legislation that would
20 cause a decrease in any surplus or an increase in
21 any deficit for any fiscal year covered by the concur-
22 rent resolution on the budget (other than procedures
23 described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii)).

24 “(2) CURRENT LEVELS WITH RESPECT TO
25 SPENDING AND TAX LEGISLATION.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of en-
2 forcing subsection (a)(2), the extent to which
3 there is a deficit for any fiscal year shall be—

4 “(i) calculated using the following as-
5 sumptions—

6 “(I) direct spending and revenue
7 levels at the baseline levels underlying
8 the most recently agreed to concur-
9 rent resolution on the budget; and

10 “(II) for the budget year, discre-
11 tionary spending levels at current law
12 levels and, for outyears, discretionary
13 spending levels at the baseline levels
14 underlying the most recently agreed to
15 concurrent resolution on the budget;
16 and

17 “(ii) adjusted for changes in the sur-
18 plus or deficit levels set forth in the most
19 recently agreed to concurrent resolution on
20 the budget pursuant to procedures in such
21 resolution that authorize adjustments in
22 budgetary aggregates for updated economic
23 and technical assumptions in the mid-ses-
24 sion report of the Director of the Congres-
25 sional Budget Office.

1 Such revisions shall be included in the first cur-
2 rent level report on the congressional budget
3 submitted for publication in the Congressional
4 Record after the release of such mid-session re-
5 port.

6 “(c) WAIVER AND APPEAL.—Subsection (a) may be
7 waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative
8 vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and
9 sworn. An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members
10 of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required
11 in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the
12 Chair on a point of order raised under this section.”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The item relating
14 to section 316 in the table of contents set forth in section
15 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Con-
16 trol Act of 1974 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 316. Safeguarding social security surpluses.”.

○