

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1588

To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2005

Mrs. LINCOLN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program.

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. CERTAIN FUNERAL AND BURIAL ARRANGE-**  
4 **MENTS NOT CONSIDERED RESOURCES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1613(e)(3) of the Social  
6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1382b(e)(3)) is amended by add-  
7 ing at the end the following:

8 “(C) If—

1           “(i) an individual or the individual’s spouse en-  
2           ters into an irrevocable contract with a provider of  
3           funeral goods and services for a funeral;

4           “(ii) the individual or the individual’s spouse  
5           funds the contract by paying for the goods and serv-  
6           ices; and

7           “(iii)(I) the funeral provider subsequently  
8           places the funds in a trust or in escrow; or

9           “(II) the individual or the individual’s spouse  
10          establishes an irrevocable trust, and the funeral pro-  
11          vider is the named beneficiary of the trust,

12       then the trust or escrow shall not be considered a resource  
13       available to the individual.”.

14       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
15       subsection (a) shall apply to payments for supplemental  
16       security income benefits under title XVI of the Social Se-  
17       curity Act for months beginning on or after the date of  
18       enactment of this Act.

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