



SOCIAL SECURITY

The Commissioner

February 11, 2019

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Section 414 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-208) requires that we report to you annually on the number of Social Security numbers (SSNs) we assigned to noncitizens who have not submitted evidence of employment authorization to SSA and under which the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reports earnings to us. Because we maintain earnings records on a calendar year basis, rather than a fiscal year basis, we based our report on 2017 earnings processed in calendar year 2018.

In 2018, we credited earnings under 324,610 nonwork SSNs, which is 18,683 less than the number in 2017. Because we are not notified when a noncitizen's work authorization status changes after we assign the SSN, the fact that IRS reports earnings to us for a nonwork SSN does not necessarily mean that the number holder performed unauthorized work.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or have your staff contact Royce Min, our Acting Deputy Commissioner for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, at (202) 358-6030.

I have sent a similar letter to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Berryhill
Acting Commissioner