



COPY

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Social Security Adminis

Refer to:

Baltimore MD 21235

SEP72

November 14, 1994

RECEIVED NOV 21 1994

The Honorable Martin Frost  
Member, U.S. House of  
Representatives  
Suite 1319, Oak Cliff Bank Tower  
400 South Zang Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75208

Dear Mr. Frost:

This is in response to your inquiry on behalf of  
Mrs. Deborah Sorenson, P.O. Box 1791, Cedar Hill,  
Texas 75104, concerning Social Security laws that require a  
person to have a Social Security number (SSN). We regret the  
delay in replying.

There is no Social Security law requiring a person to have an  
SSN to live or work in the United States. However, there are  
several laws that require the SSN for other purposes. If an  
individual works without an SSN, the Social Security  
Administration (SSA) cannot properly credit his/her wages for  
work performed. Therefore, we record the individual's wages  
to a "suspense" file of unidentified wages. These wages  
remain in the "suspense" file until the individual contacts  
SSA with evidence of his/her earnings. The earnings are then  
credited to the individual's Social Security record under the  
SSN we issued.

Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Vincent Sanudo, Director  
Office of Public Inquiries