

Washington, DC - Today, Congressman John W. Olver (D- 1st District) announced that the House of Representatives has passed the Social Security Earnings Limit Repeal Act of 2011.

“This is a great day for hundreds of thousands of working seniors,” Olver said. “This bill allows seniors to continue working without being penalized for doing so.”

Earlier this month, both the House and Senate passed HR 5 unanimously. However, the Senate has yet to take any action on the bill.

“This bill is going to help over 24,000 senior citizens in Massachusetts who are being penalized for working.”

The earnings limit originated in the 1930's when it was put into place to discourage workers eligible for Social Security from working.

Repealing the earnings limit for seniors is estimated to cost about \$8 billion in 2011 and \$23 billion in 2012.

Under current law, seniors who claim Social Security benefits before they reach 69 are subject to a 50 percent earnings limit.

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