

Along with Documents—

Social Security Can Be Paid Faster

More and more people are applying for social security benefits these days and their claims could be paid faster if they had the needed documents when they applied, said Charles J. Brodigan, social security district manager.

For example, if someone is applying for retirement benefits, wife's, widow's, or children's benefits, age must be proved before monthly payments can be made, Brodigan said.

The best documents for this are a birth or baptismal certificate made before age five. If neither of these certificates are available, census records, school records, military or employment records delayed birth certificates

or church records can be brought in.

Generally, the older the document, the better it is as proof of age.

A record of earnings for the year before filing is needed in addition to other proofs, he said. For the person who works for someone else, the previous year's withholding statement can be used.

The self-employed person should submit the previous year's federal income tax return.

For widow's applications, a marriage certificate, death certificate and possibly proof of divorce from a prior marriage may be needed.

For those applying for disability benefits details of work and earnings for the twelve months prior to the date of disability are needed. Very important also are the names and addresses of all doctors and hospitals which gave treatment to the disabled person.

Last, but far from least, the social security number, Brodigan continued. Anyone applying for any payment should bring in all the numbers of all persons involved in the claims.

This would include the numbers for a husband, wife, or any children.

No one should delay too long waiting for proofs before filing applications, Brodigan stated. Telephone your Fairbanks Social Security Office for assistance in getting the proofs.

If you contact them before you apply you will speed your claim when you do apply. Telephone 452-2303 for help.

If you do not have a phone anyone can write or go to the office at 1514 Cushman Street, Room 311.

Anti-hunters on 2nd Phase— National Advertising Designed to Scare Congress

Anti-hunting and animal protectionist groups have launched the second phase of a national newspaper advertising campaign designed to frighten Congress into enacting a law upholding their stated aim to stop all taking of whales, seals, sea otters, polar bears, and other marine mammals, according to the Wildlife Management Institute.

Their goal is contrary to what leading marine specialists advise is best for the animals, but that does not deter their emotional stand on this issue.

Current targets for their ire are the Senate Committee on Commerce, chaired by Senator Warren G. Magnuson (Wash.) and its Subcommittee on Oceans and Atmosphere, headed by Senator Ernest F. Hollings (S.C.).

The anti-hunting and protectionist associations are trying to force Magnuson and Hollings to report their bill. Their newspaper ads are stimulating a huge volume of mail to sway the committee's decision.

Much of the mail is from persons seriously concerned about the future of marine mammals, but who have little actual understanding of the undesirable result their efforts may bring.

Oversimplifications, half-truths, and misleading statements are being used to encourage them to take action that could be contrary to the well-being of marine mammals.

By use of the same tactics, the protectionists succeeded in getting unwise provisions written into H.R.10420 when it was voted on the House floor. They seek how to gain still more concessions in the Senate version.

Leading wildlife experts and conservations have advised the Hollings subcommittee that the House-passed bill is seriously deficient. Its greatest and least recognized weakness is its substitution of emotion for proven scientific judgement in the management of marine mammals.

H.R.10420 would forbid any killing of marine mammals, except by special permit, for a period of five years. The Senate subcommittee is considering increasing the moratorium to 15 years.

Leading marine experts have told the House and Senate committees that a blanket moratorium is negative, that it could result in more harm than good.

Many of the animals are international in their movements and distribution, and the prohibition against taking the animals by Americans will have no effect whatsoever on other nations.

In fact, the State Department testified that continued efforts to force a worldwide moratorium could sabotage rational efforts to establish needed and workable international agreements.

Some countries are increasingly dependent on marine mammals for food and U.S. blanket closures will have absolutely no effect on their take. Only international agreements can reduce and regulate such taking.

Experts are advising the House and Senate committees to authorize greatly expanded federal-state cooperative research, enforcement, land acquisition, and management programs for marine mammals.

H.R.10420 virtually rules this out, choosing instead to exert federal preemption over all marine mammals, even those most common to state waters. Federal agencies lack both personnel and equipment to do the job.

A bill introduced by Senator Ted Stevens (Alaska) S.3161, includes the protective measures recommended by marine experts and wildlife specialists.

It is receiving little attention, however due to the chaos generated by the emotional proponents of total protection.

Everyone wants the marine mammals protected from future harm. The real question is how it should be done — by emotional reaction which historically has failed or by scientific man-

agement that already has all marine mammal populations either under total protection, stabilized, or increasing.

Senator Magnuson, Senator Hollings, and other members of the Senate and House are receiving many requests from conservationists that any legislation enacted assure that scientific effort will be focused on the animal's well-being.

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