



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

PAYMENT CENTER
FLUSHING, N.Y. 11368

REFER TO:

This is the highest primary insurance amount which can be established on this record and it, therefore, affords the survivors the highest possible benefits payable on this record.

August 6, 1969

Honorable Jacob K. Javits
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sincerely yours,

John A. McCarroll
Regional Representative

Dear Senator Javits:

This is in further reference to your letter to the Congressional Liaison Office concerning survivors' benefits payable on the social security record of the late Mrs. Leona D. Shields. Mr. Francis J. Shields, Route 1, Box 249, 11 Ballaire Drive, Scotia, New York 12302 had written to you about this record.

A thorough review of the records shows that the survivors' benefits, which are being paid on the social security record of the late Mrs. Shields, are the highest payable on the basis of earnings credited to this record.

All benefits payable on an earnings record are based upon a primary insurance amount which is determined on the basis of a worker's average earnings in covered work over a specified number of years. In death cases, the number of years used includes all years after 1936 or 1950 (excluding those before age 22) reduced by 5 and up to the year of the death. Whichever of the two computations affords the higher primary insurance amount is the one on which benefits are based.

In the instant case, it was more advantageous to use years from 1943 (when she attained age 22) up to 1969 (the year of death) less 5.

Total earnings of \$25,211.22^{*} for 21 years resulted in an average monthly wage of \$100 and a primary insurance amount of \$81.10.

* Apparently, all earnings, 1937-1968, are counted.

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Honorable Jacob K. Javits

8/6/69

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This is the highest primary insurance amount which can be established on this record and it, therefore, affords the survivors the highest possible benefits payable on this record.

Sincerely yours,

John A. McConnachie
Regional Representative

Dear Senator Javits:

This is in further reference to your letter to the Congressional Liaison Office concerning survivors' benefits payable on the social security record of the late Mrs. Louis B. Shields. Mr. Francis J. Shields, Route 1, Box 249, 21 Madison Avenue, Scotia, New York 12302 has written to you about this record.

A thorough review of the records shows that the survivors' benefits, which are being paid on the social security record of the late Mrs. Shields, are the highest payable on the basis of earnings credited to this record.

All benefits payable on an earnings record are based upon a primary insurance amount which is determined on the basis of a worker's average earnings in covered work over a specified number of years. In death cases, the number of years used includes all years after 1936 or 1950 (excluding those before age 22) reduced by 5 and up to the year of the death. Whichever of the two computations affords the higher primary insurance amount is the one on which benefits are based.

In the instant case, it was determined that the years from 1943 (when she attained age 22) up to 1969 (the year of death) less 5.

Total earnings of \$25,511.27 for 21 years resulted in an average monthly wage of \$100 and a primary insurance amount of \$21.10.

A. Apparently all earnings, 1937-1968, are covered.