

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1288

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of cost-effective, medically necessary dental procedures.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 1997

Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. STARK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of cost-effective, medically necessary dental procedures.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Medically
5 Necessary Dental Care Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. COST-EFFECTIVE MEDICARE COVERAGE OF MEDI-**
2 **CALLY NECESSARY DENTAL PROCEDURES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1862 of the Social Secu-
4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a)(12)—

6 (A) by inserting “(A)” after “except that”,

7 and

8 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at the end
9 the following: “, and (B) payment may be made
10 under part B for the provision of such dental serv-
11 ices that are medically necessary as a direct result
12 of, or will have a direct impact on, an underlying
13 medical condition if the coverage of such services is
14 cost-effective, as determined under subsection (j)”;
15 and

16 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
17 section:

18 “(j) For purposes of subsection (a)(12)(B)—

19 “(1) Dental services shall be considered to be
20 cost-effective if furnished in connection with treat-
21 ment of an individual with any of the following diag-
22 noses: congenital or acquired valvular heart disease,
23 cancer of the head or neck, lymphoma, leukemia,
24 and organ transplantation.

25 “(2) If the Secretary determines that the cov-
26 erage (under the exception provided in section

1 1862(a)(12)(B)) of dental services furnished in con-
2 nection with treatment of an individual with a diag-
3 nosis not listed in paragraph (1) will result in reduc-
4 tions in expenditures under this title that exceed the
5 expenditures resulting from such coverage, coverage
6 shall be available under such exception with respect
7 to such an individual with such diagnosis unless
8 (and until) the Secretary makes a determination to
9 the contrary.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 subsection (a) shall apply to procedures performed on or
12 after January 1, 1998.

○