H. R. 3128

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to restrictions on changes in benefits under Medicare+Choice plans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

January 28, 1998

Mr. Nadler (for himself, Mr. Frost, Mr. Lafalce, Mr. Filner, Mr. Holden, Mr. Wexler, Mr. Yates, and Mrs. Clayton) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, 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 with respect to restrictions on changes in benefits under Medicare+Choice plans.

- 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 Managed
- 5 Care Notification Act of 1998".

SEC. 2. RESTRICTIONS IN CHANGES IN BENEFITS UNDER 2 MEDICARE+CHOICE PLANS. 3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1852(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-22(a)) is amended by adding 4 5 at the end the following new paragraph: 6 "(7) Changes in Benefits.— 7 "(A) Prohibition of reduction in Ben-8 EFITS DURING CONTRACT YEAR.—A 9 Medicare+Choice organization may not, during a contract year, change the terms of benefits in 10 11 a manner that is adverse to an enrollee. 12 "(B) ADVANCE NOTICE OF CHANGES IN 13 BENEFITS.—If a Medicare+Choice organization 14 intends to change its benefits offered under this 15 part in a contract year from those offered in 16 the previous contract year, the organization 17 shall provide to enrollees, not later than 120 18 days before the beginning of the contract year 19 involved, notice in comparative form of the 20 changes in benefits intended compared to those 21 offered in the previous contract year.". 22 (b) Effective Date.—The amendment made by 23 subsection (a) applies to contract years beginning on or

after the date of the enactment of this Act.