

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 632

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on mortality and adverse outcome rates of Medicare patients of providers of anesthesia services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 1999

Mr. WELDON of Florida (for himself, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. TALENT) 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 require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on mortality and adverse outcome rates of Medicare patients of providers of anesthesia services, and for other purposes.

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 “Safe Seniors Assurance
5 Study Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. ANESTHESIA OUTCOME STUDY.**

2 (a) STUDY.—(1) The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services shall conduct a study of mortality and
4 adverse outcome rates of medicare patients by providers
5 of anesthesia services. In conducting the study, the Sec-
6 retary shall analyze the impact of physician supervision
7 of providers of anesthesia services, or lack thereof, on such
8 mortality and adverse outcome rates.

9 (2) In conducting the study, the Secretary shall con-
10 sult with appropriate national professional organizations
11 with respect to the methodology of the study, and shall
12 use medicare operating room anesthesia data, adjusted for
13 patient acuity and other relevant scientific variables.

14 (b) REPORT.—Not later than June 30, 2000, the
15 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing the
16 results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

17 (c) CONSIDERATION OF REPORT IN RULEMAKING.—
18 If the Secretary determines that the lack of physician su-
19 pervision of providers of anesthesia services results in an
20 adverse impact on outcome rates of medicare patients,
21 then providers of anesthesia services furnished under the
22 medicare or medicaid program shall be supervised by a
23 physician in the same manner as such providers are super-
24 vised under regulations of the Department of Health and
25 Human Services in effect on January 1, 1999.