

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1601

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude small rural providers from the prospective payment system for hospital outpatient department services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

Mr. BAUCUS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude small rural providers from the prospective payment system for hospital outpatient department services.

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 “Small Rural Provider
5 Act of 1999”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF SMALL RURAL PROVIDERS FROM**
 2 **PPS FOR HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DEPART-**
 3 **MENT SERVICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(t)(1) of the Social
 5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(t)(1)) is amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “For pur-
 7 poses of this” and inserting “Subject to subpara-
 8 graph (C), for purposes of this”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(C) EXCLUSION FOR SERVICES FURNISHED BY
 11 SMALL RURAL PROVIDERS.—The term ‘covered OPD
 12 services’ does not include services furnished by a—

13 “(i) medicare-dependent, small rural hos-
 14 pital, as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(G)(iv);

15 “(ii) a critical access hospital, as defined in
 16 section 1861(mm)(1);

17 “(iii) sole community hospital, as defined
 18 in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii); or

19 “(iv) a hospital (determined as of the date
 20 of enactment of the Small Rural Provider Act
 21 of 1999) that—

22 “(I) has less than 50 beds; and

23 “(II) performed less than 5,000 out-
 24 patient procedures during the 12-month
 25 period ending on such date;

1 if such hospital, within the 180-day period beginning
2 on the date of enactment of the Small Rural Pro-
3 vider Act of 1999, requests the Secretary to exclude
4 services furnished by such hospital from the prospec-
5 tive payment system established under this sub-
6 section.”.

7 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
8 subsection (a) shall take effect as if included in the enact-
9 ment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

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