

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3106

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the definition of homebound under the medicare home health benefit.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 25 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 22), 2000

Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. REED, and Mr. LEAHY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the definition of homebound under the medicare home health benefit.

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 “The Home Health  
5       Care Protection Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF THE HOMEBOUND DEFINITION**  
2 **UNDER THE MEDICARE HOME HEALTH BEN-**  
3 **EFIT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 1814(a) and 1835(a) of  
5 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(a) and  
6 1395n(a)) are each amended—

7 (1) in the last sentence, by striking “, and that  
8 absences of the individual from home are infrequent  
9 or of relatively short duration, or are attributable to  
10 the need to receive medical treatment”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-  
12 tences: “Any absence of an individual from the home  
13 attributable to the need to receive health care treat-  
14 ment, including regular absences for the purpose of  
15 participating in therapeutic, psychosocial, or medical  
16 treatment in an adult day-care program that is li-  
17 censed or certified by a State, or accredited, to fur-  
18 nish adult day-care services in the State shall not  
19 disqualify an individual from being considered to be  
20 ‘confined to his home’. Any other absence of an indi-  
21 vidual from the home shall not so disqualify an indi-  
22 vidual if the absence is of infrequent or short dura-  
23 tion. For purposes of the preceding sentence, any  
24 absence for the purpose of visiting a family member  
25 who is unable to visit the individual or for the pur-

1       pose of attending a religious service shall be deemed  
2       to be an absence of infrequent and short duration.”.

3       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
4 subsection (a) shall apply to items and services provided  
5 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

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