

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 818

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the mortality and adverse outcome rates of medicare patients related to the provision of anesthesia services.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 15, 1999

Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. REID) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the mortality and adverse outcome rates of medicare patients related to the provision of anesthesia 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 “Safe Seniors Assurance  
5       Study Act of 1999”.

6       **SEC. 2. ANESTHESIA OUTCOME STUDY.**

7       (a) STUDY.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
2       Human Services shall conduct a study concerning  
3       the mortality and adverse outcome rates of medicare  
4       patients related to the provision of anesthesia serv-  
5       ices. In conducting such study, the Secretary shall  
6       analyze the impact of physician supervision of pro-  
7       viders of anesthesia services, or lack thereof, on such  
8       mortality and adverse outcome rates.

9           (2) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study  
10      under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Health and  
11      Human Services shall consult with appropriate na-  
12      tional professional organizations with respect to the  
13      methodology of the study, and shall use medicare op-  
14      erating room anesthesia data, adjusted for patient  
15      acuity and other relevant scientific variables.

16      (b) REPORT.—Not later than June 30, 2000, the  
17      Secretary of Health and Human Services shall prepare  
18      and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a  
19      report containing the results of the study conducted under  
20      subsection (a).

21      (c) CONSIDERATION OF REPORT IN RULEMAKING.—  
22      The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall con-  
23      sider the results of the study conducted under subsection  
24      (a) when determining if any modification or amendment  
25      to medicare regulations promulgated under title XVIII of

1 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.), and in  
2 effect on January 1, 1999, relating to physician super-  
3 vision of anesthesia services is appropriate.

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