

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1376

To amend part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that Medicare+Choice eligible individuals have sufficient time to consider information and to make an informed choice regarding enrollment in a Medicare+Choice plan.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 3, 2001

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

A BILL

To amend part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that Medicare+Choice eligible individuals have sufficient time to consider information and to make an informed choice regarding enrollment in a Medicare+Choice plan.

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 Beneficiary
5 Information Provision Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO PROVISION OF INFORMATION**
 2 **TO PROMOTE INFORMED CHOICE.**

3 (a) **EARLIER OPEN SEASON NOTIFICATION.**—Section
 4 1851(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 5 1395w–21(d)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “At least 15
 6 days before” and inserting “At least 45 days (in the case
 7 of 2001, 30 days) before”.

8 (b) **ENSURING MAINTENANCE OF PRINTED MATE-**
 9 **RIALS.**—Section 1851(d)(5) of the Social Security Act (42
 10 U.S.C. 1395w–21(d)(5)) is amended by striking “The Sec-
 11 retary shall maintain” and inserting “In addition to mail-
 12 ing the information under this section in printed form to
 13 each Medicare+Choice eligible individual, the Secretary
 14 shall maintain”.

15 (c) **PROVIDING SUFFICIENT TIME FOR ADEQUATE**
 16 **REVIEW OF PROPOSED PREMIUMS AND RELATED INFOR-**
 17 **MATION.**—Section 1854(a)(5) of the Social Security Act
 18 (42 U.S.C. 1395w–24(a)(5)) is amended by adding at the
 19 end the following new subparagraph:

20 “(C) **DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF RE-**
 21 **VIEWABLE MATERIALS.**—The Secretary—

22 “(i) may only review the rates,
 23 amounts, and values described in subpara-
 24 graph (A) that are received by the Sec-
 25 retary on or before July 1 of the year pre-

1 ceding the year for which such rates,
 2 amounts, and values are to apply;

3 “(ii) shall be deemed to have dis-
 4 approved any rate, amount, or value sub-
 5 mitted after such date; and

6 “(iii) may not permit a
 7 Medicare+Choice organization to resubmit,
 8 amend, or otherwise modify such rates,
 9 amounts, or values after such date.”.

10 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
 12 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date
 13 of enactment of this Act.

14 (2) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF REVIEW-
 15 ABLE MATERIALS.—The amendment made by sub-
 16 section (c) shall apply with respect to years begin-
 17 ning after 2001.

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