

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1593

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to enhance the access of Medicare beneficiaries who live in medically underserved areas to critical primary and preventive health care benefits at Federally qualified health centers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 29, 2005

Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. BINGAMAN) 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 enhance the access of Medicare beneficiaries who live in medically underserved areas to critical primary and preventive health care benefits at Federally qualified health centers.

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 Payment Ad-
5 justment To Community Health Centers (PATCH) Act of
6 2005”.

1 **SEC. 2. DELIVERY OF MEDICARE-COVERED PRIMARY AND**
2 **PREVENTIVE SERVICES AT FEDERALLY**
3 **QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS.**

4 (a) COVERAGE OF MEDICARE-COVERED AMBULA-
5 TORY SERVICES BY FQHCS.—Section 1861(aa)(3) of the
6 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)(3)) is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 “(3) The term ‘Federally qualified health center serv-
9 ices’ means—

10 “(A) services of the type described in subpara-
11 graphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1), and such
12 other services furnished by a Federally qualified
13 health center for which payment may otherwise be
14 made under this title if such services were furnished
15 by a health care provider or health care professional
16 other than a Federally qualified health center; and

17 “(B) preventive primary health services that a
18 center is required to provide under section 330 of
19 the Public Health Service Act,

20 when furnished to an individual as a patient of a Federally
21 qualified health center and such services when provided
22 by a health care provider or health care professional em-
23 ployed by or under contract with a Federally qualified
24 health center shall be treated as billable visits for purposes
25 of payment to the Federally qualified health center.”.

1 (b) ENSURING FQHC REIMBURSEMENT FOR PA-
2 TIENTS OF HOSPITALS AND CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS
3 UNDER THE HOSPITAL PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYS-
4 TEM.—Section 1862(a)(14) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1395y(a)) is amended by inserting “Federally
6 qualified health center services,” after “qualified psycholo-
7 gist services,”.

8 (c) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Clauses (i) and
9 (ii)(II) of section 1861(aa)(4)(A) of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(aa)(4)(A)) are each amended by
11 striking “(other than subsection (h))”.

12 (d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—The amendments made—
13 (1) by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply to
14 services furnished on or after January 1, 2006; and
15 (2) by subsection (c) shall take effect as if in-
16 cluded in the enactment of the Health Centers Con-
17 solidation Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–299).

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