

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1277

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to investigate how to eliminate the gap in benefits between standard coverage and catastrophic coverage under the Medicare prescription drug program under part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. WYNN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. MILLER of North Carolina) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to investigate how to eliminate the gap in benefits between standard coverage and catastrophic coverage under the Medicare prescription drug program under part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Prescription
3 Drug Benefits Gap Elimination Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. DIRECTING SECRETARY TO INVESTIGATE SOLU-**
5 **TIONS TO ELIMINATE BENEFIT GAP UNDER**
6 **MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.**

7 The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this
8 Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall conduct a study
9 to investigate how to eliminate the gap in benefits for cov-
10 ered part D drugs under the Medicare prescription drug
11 program under part D of title XVIII of the Social Security
12 Act after a part D eligible individual’s costs exceed the
13 initial coverage limit, as described in section 1860D–
14 2(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–
15 102(b)(3)), and before the individual obtains protection
16 against high out-of-pocket expenditures under section
17 1860D–2(b)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–102(b)(4)).

18 **SEC. 3. REPORT.**

19 Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment
20 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to Con-
21 gress on the findings from the study conducted under sec-
22 tion 2 and shall include in the report recommendations
23 for legislation based on those findings.

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