111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 1003

To increase immunization rates.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 7, 2009

Mr. Reed introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To increase immunization rates.

- 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Immunization Improvement Act of 2009".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents for
- 7 this Act is as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 - Sec. 2. Findings.
 - Sec. 3. State authority to purchase recommended vaccines for adults.
 - Sec. 4. Demonstration program to improve immunization coverage.
 - Sec. 5. Reauthorization of immunization program.
 - Sec. 6. Inclusion of recommended immunizations under part B of the Medicare program with no beneficiary cost-sharing.
 - Sec. 7. Medicaid coverage of recommended adult immunizations.
 - Sec. 8. Vaccine administration fees.
 - Sec. 9. Health insurance coverage for recommended immunizations.

Sec. 10. Immunization information systems.

Sec. 11. Reports.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

2 Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Immunizations recommended for routine use have been proven to be clinically effective in improving health and preventing the spread of disease. Routine childhood immunizations prevent over 14,000,000 cases of disease and over 33,500 deaths over the lifetime of children born in any given year. In addition to protecting individuals from disease, immunization provides population-based (herd) immunity.
 - (2) An economic evaluation of the impact of seven vaccines routinely given as part of the child-hood immunization schedule found that the vaccines are cost-effective. Over the lifetime of children born in any given year, these immunizations result in an annual cost savings of \$10,000,000,000 in direct medical costs and over \$40,000,000,000 in indirect societal costs.
 - (3) There are significant and persistent gaps in public and private health insurance coverage of immunizations. About 11 percent of young children and 21 percent of adolescents are underinsured for immunizations. Among adults, 59 percent are under-

- insured and 17 percent are completely uninsured for immunizations. According to the Institute of Medicine, even those with insurance increasingly have to pay higher deductibles and copayments for immunizations.
 - (4) Each year, vaccine-preventable diseases cause the deaths of more than 42,000 people and hundreds of thousands cases of illness.
 - (5) In 2003, the Institute of Medicine's Committee on the Evaluation of Vaccine Purchase Financing made the following conclusions:
 - (A) Current public and private financing strategies for immunization have had substantial success, especially in improving immunization rates for young children. However, significant disparities remain in assuring access to recommended vaccines across geographic and demographic populations.
 - (B) Many young children, adolescents, and high-risk adults have no or limited insurance for recommended vaccines. Gaps and fragmentation in insurance benefits create barriers for both vulnerable populations and clinicians that can contribute to lower immunization rates.

1	SEC. 3. STATE AUTHORITY TO PURCHASE RECOMMENDED
2	VACCINES FOR ADULTS.
3	Section 317 of the Public Health Service Act (42
4	U.S.C. 247b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5	lowing:
6	"(l) Authority To Purchase Recommended Vac-
7	CINES FOR ADULTS.—
8	"(1) In General.—The Secretary may nego-
9	tiate and enter into contracts with manufacturers of
10	vaccines for the purchase and delivery of vaccines
11	for adults otherwise provided vaccines under grants
12	under this section.
13	"(2) State purchase.—A State may obtain
14	adult vaccines (subject to amounts specified to the
15	Secretary by the State in advance of negotiations)
16	through the purchase of vaccines from manufactur-
17	ers at the applicable price negotiated by the Sec-
18	retary under this subsection.".
19	SEC. 4. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO IMPROVE IMMUNI-
20	ZATION COVERAGE.
21	Section 317 of the Public Health Service Act (42
22	U.S.C. 247b), as amended by section 3, is further amend-
23	ed by adding at the end the following:
24	"(m) Demonstration Program To Improve Im-
25	MINIZATION COVERAGE —

1 "(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting 2 through the Director of the Centers for Disease 3 Control and Prevention, shall establish a demonstra-4 tion program to award grants to States to improve 5 the provision of recommended immunizations for 6 children, adolescents, and adults through the use of 7 evidence-based, population-based interventions for 8 high-risk populations.

- "(2) STATE PLAN.—To be eligible for a grant under paragraph (1), a State shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including a State plan that describes the interventions to be implemented under the grant and how such interventions match with local needs and capabilities, as determined through consultation with local authorities.
- "(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds received under a grant under this subsection shall be used to implement interventions that are recommended by the Task Force on Community Preventive Services (as established by the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) or other evidence-based interventions, including—

1	"(A) providing immunization reminders or
2	recalls for target populations of clients, pa-
3	tients, and consumers;
4	"(B) educating targeted populations and
5	health care providers concerning immunizations
6	in combination with one or more other interven-
7	tions;
8	"(C) reducing out-of-pocket costs for fami-
9	lies for vaccines and their administration;
10	"(D) carrying out immunization-promoting
11	strategies for participants or clients of public
12	programs, including assessments of immuniza-
13	tion status, referrals to health care providers,
14	education, provision of on-site immunizations,
15	or incentives for immunization;
16	"(E) providing for home visits that pro-
17	mote immunization through education, assess-
18	ments of need, referrals, provision of immuniza-
19	tions, or other services;
20	"(F) providing reminders or recalls for im-
21	munization providers;
22	"(G) conducting assessments of, and pro-
23	viding feedback to, immunization providers; or
24	"(H) any combination of one or more
25	interventions described in this paragraph.

- 1 "(4) Consideration.—In awarding grants 2 under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider 3 any reviews or recommendations of the Task Force 4 on Community Preventive Services.
 - "(5) EVALUATION.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which a State receives a grant under this subsection, the State shall submit to the Secretary an evaluation of progress made toward improving immunization coverage rates among high-risk populations within the State.
 - "(6) Report to congress.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of the Immunization Improvement Act of 2009, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report concerning the effectiveness of the demonstration program established under this subsection together with recommendations on whether to continue and expand such program.
 - "(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—
 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
 this subsection, such sums as may be necessary for
 each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014.".
- 22 SEC. 5. REAUTHORIZATION OF IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM.
- Section 317(j) of the Public Health Service Act (42
- 24 U.S.C. 247b(j)) is amended—

1	(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "for each of
2	the fiscal years 1998 through 2005"; and
3	(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "after October
4	1, 1997,".
5	SEC. 6. INCLUSION OF RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS
6	UNDER PART B OF THE MEDICARE PROGRAM
7	WITH NO BENEFICIARY COST-SHARING.
8	(a) In General.—Paragraph (10) of section
9	1861(s) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s))
10	is amended to read as follows:
11	"(10) vaccines recommended for routine use by
12	the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
13	(an advisory committee established by the Secretary,
14	acting through the Director of the Centers for Dis-
15	ease Control and Prevention) and their administra-
16	tion;".
17	(b) Conforming Amendments.—
18	(1) Section 1833 of the Social Security Act (42
19	U.S.C. 1395l) is amended, in each of subsections
20	(a)(1)(B), (a)(2)(G), (a)(3)(A), (b)(1), by striking
21	" $1861(s)(10)(A)$ " or " $1861(s)(10)(B)$ " and insert-
22	ing "1861(s)(10)" each place it appears.
23	(2) Section 1842(o)(1)(A)(iv) of the Social Se-
24	curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(o)(1)(A)(iv)) is amend-
25	ed by striking "subparagraph (A) or (B) of".

1 (3) Section 1847A(c)(6) of the Social Security 2 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-3a(c)(6)) is amended by 3 striking subparagraph (G). 4 (4) Section 1860D–2(e)(1) of the Social Secu-5 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-102(e)(1)) is amended by striking "a vaccine" and all that follows through 6 7 "its administration) and". 8 (5) Section 1861(ww)(2)(A) of the Social Secu-9 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(ww)(2)(A)) is amended 10 by striking "Pneumococcal, influenza, and hepatitis 11 B" and inserting "Any". 12 (6) Section 1866(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc(a)(2)(A)) is amended by 13 14 "1861(s)(10)(A)" striking and inserting "1861(s)(10)". 15 16 (c) Effective Date.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to vaccines administered on or 18 after January 1, 2010. SEC. 7. MEDICAID COVERAGE OF RECOMMENDED ADULT 19 20 IMMUNIZATIONS. 21 (a) Mandatory Coverage of Recommended Im-22 MUNIZATIONS FOR ADULTS.—Section 1905(a)(4) of the 23 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(4)) is amended— (1) by striking "and" before "(C)"; and 24

1	(2) by inserting after the semicolon the fol-
2	lowing: "and (D) with respect to an adult individual,
3	vaccines recommended for routine use by the Advi-
4	sory Committee on Immunization Practices (an advi-
5	sory committee established by the Secretary, acting
6	through the Director of the Centers for Disease
7	Control and Prevention) and their administration;".
8	(b) Prohibition on Cost-Sharing.—
9	(1) In General.—Section 1916 of the Social
10	Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396o), as amended by sec-
11	tion 5006(a)(1)(A) of division B of Public Law 111-
12	5, is amended—
13	(A) in subsection (a), by striking "and (j)"
14	and inserting ", (j), and (k)"; and
15	(B) by adding at the end the following:
16	"(k) The State plan shall require that no provider
17	participating under the State plan may impose a copay-
18	ment, cost-sharing charge, or similar charge for vaccines
19	or their administration that the State is required to pro-
20	vide under sections 1902(a)(10)(A) and 1905(a)(4)(D).".
21	(2) Technical and conforming amend-
22	MENT.—The second sentence of section 1916A(a)(1)
23	of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396o-1(a)(1)) is amended

- 1 (c) Allowing for Medicaid Rebates.—Section
- 2 1927(k)(2)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r-8(k)(2)(B))
- 3 is amended by striking ", other than a vaccine" and in-
- 4 serting "(including vaccines described in section
- 5 1905(a)(4)(D) but excluding qualified pediatric vaccines
- 6 under section 1928)".
- 7 (d) Effective Date.—
- 8 (1) In general.—Except as provided in para-
- 9 graphs (2) and (3), the amendments made by this
- section take effect on October 1, 2010.
- 11 (2) Extension of effective date for
- 12 STATE LAW AMENDMENT.—In the case of a State
- plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42)
- 14 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) which the Secretary of Health
- and Human Services determines requires State legis-
- lation in order for the plan to meet the additional
- 17 requirements imposed by the amendments made by
- this section, the State plan shall not be regarded as
- failing to comply with the requirements of such title
- solely on the basis of its failure to meet these addi-
- 21 tional requirements before the first day of the first
- calendar quarter beginning after the close of the
- first regular session of the State legislature that be-
- gins after the date of enactment of this Act. For
- 25 purposes of the previous sentence, in the case of a

- State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year of the session is considered to be a separate regular session of the State legislature.
- 4 (3) MEDICAID REBATES.—The amendment 5 made by subsection (c) takes effect on October 1, 6 2010, and applies to rebate agreements entered into 7 under section 1927 of the Social Security Act (42 8 U.S.C. 1396r–8) on or after that date.

9 SEC. 8. VACCINE ADMINISTRATION FEES.

- 10 (a) Review of Federally Established Max-
- 11 IMUM ALLOWABLE ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Not later
- 12 than October 1, 2010, the Administrator of the Centers
- 13 for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Director of the
- 14 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, jointly
- 15 shall—
- 16 (1) review the regional maximum charge for
- 17 vaccine administration for each State established
- under the Vaccines for Children program under sec-
- tion 1928 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
- 20 1396s) to determine the appropriateness and ade-
- 21 quacy of such rates; and
- 22 (2) update such rates, as appropriate, based on
- 23 the results of such review and taking into account
- all appropriate costs related to the administration of
- vaccines under that program.

1	(b) Federal Reimbursement for Vaccine Ad-
2	MINISTRATION FOR NON-MEDICAID VACCINE-ELIGIBLE
3	CHILDREN.—
4	(1) In general.—Section 1928 of the Social
5	Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396s) is amended—
6	(A) in subsection (a)(1)(B), by inserting
7	"and is entitled to receive reimbursement for
8	any fee imposed by the provider for the admin-
9	istration of such vaccine consistent with sub-
10	section (c)(2)(C) (not to exceed the amount ap-
11	plicable under clause (iv) of such subsection) to
12	a federally vaccine-eligible child who is de-
13	scribed in clause (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subsection
14	(b)(2)," after "delivery to the provider,";
15	(B) in subsection (a)(2), by adding at the
16	end the following new subparagraph:
17	"(D) Reimbursement for vaccine
18	ADMINISTRATION FOR NON-MEDICAID ELI-
19	GIBLE CHILDREN.—The Secretary shall
20	pay each State such amounts as are nec-
21	essary for the State to reimburse each pro-
22	gram-registered provider in the State for
23	an administration fee imposed consistent
24	with subsection (c)(2)(C) (not to exceed
25	the amount applicable under clause (iv) of

1	such subsection) for the administration of
2	a qualified pediatric vaccine to a federally
3	vaccine-eligible child who is described in
4	clause (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subsection
5	(b)(2).";
6	(C) in subsection $(c)(2)(C)$, by adding at
7	the end the following new clause:
8	"(IV) In the case of a federally vac-
9	cine-eligible child who is described in
10	clause (ii), (iii), or (iv) of subsection
11	(b)(2), the State shall pay the provider an
12	amount equal to the administration fee es-
13	tablished under the State plan approved
14	under this title for the administration of a
15	qualified pediatric vaccine to a medicaid-el-
16	igible child."; and
17	(D) by striking subsection (g).
18	(2) Conforming amendments.—Section 1928
19	of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396s), as amended by para-
20	graph (1), is amended—
21	(A) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
22	section (g);
23	(B) in subsection $(a)(1)(A)$, by striking
24	"(h)(8)" and inserting "(σ)(8)" and

1	(C) in subsection $(b)(2)(A)(iv)$, by striking
2	"(h)(3)" and inserting "(g)(3)".
3	SEC. 9. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR REC-
4	OMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS.
5	(a) Amendments to the Public Health Service
6	Act.—
7	(1) Group Health Coverage.—Subpart 2 of
8	part A of title XXVII of the Public Health Service
9	Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-4 et seq.) is amended by add-
10	ing at the end the following:
11	"SEC. 2708. COVERAGE OF RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZA-
12	TIONS.
13	"A group health plan, and a health insurance issuer
14	offering group health insurance coverage, shall provide for
15	coverage, without the application of deductibles, coinsur-
16	ance, or copayments, of vaccines recommended for routine
17	use by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
18	(as established by the Secretary, acting through the Direc-
19	tor of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
20	and their administration.".
21	(2) Individual health insurance cov-
22	ERAGE.—Subpart 2 of part B of title XXVII of the
23	Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-51 et

1	"SEC. 2754. COVERAGE OF RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZA-
2	TIONS.
3	"The provisions of section 2708 shall apply to health
4	insurance coverage offered by a health insurance issuer
5	in the individual market in the same manner as such pro-
6	visions apply to health insurance coverage offered by a
7	health insurance issuer in connection with a group health
8	plan in the small or large group market.".
9	(b) Amendments to ERISA.—
10	(1) In general.—Subpart B of part 7 of sub-
11	title B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income
12	Security Act of 1974 is amended by adding at the
13	end the following:
14	"SEC. 715. COVERAGE OF RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZATIONS.
15	"A group health plan, and a health insurance issuer
16	offering group health insurance coverage, shall provide for
17	coverage, without the application of deductibles, coinsur-
18	ance, or copayments, of vaccines recommended for routine
19	use by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
20	(as established by the Secretary, acting through the Direc-
21	tor of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
22	and their administration.".
23	(2) Technical amendments.—
24	(A) Section 732(a) of such Act (29 U.S.C.
25	1191a(a)) is amended by striking "section 711"
26	and inserting "sections 711 and 715".

1	(B) The table of contents in section 1 of
2	such Act is amended by inserting after the item
3	relating to section 713 the following new item:
	"Sec. 715. Coverage of recommended immunizations.".
4	(c) Internal Revenue Code Amendments.—
5	(1) In General.—Subchapter B of chapter
6	100 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amend-
7	ed —
8	(A) in the table of sections, by inserting
9	after the item relating to section 9813 the fol-
10	lowing new item:
	"Sec. 9814. Coverage of recommended immunizations.";
11	and
12	(B) by inserting after section 9813 the fol-
13	lowing:
14	"SEC. 9814. COVERAGE OF RECOMMENDED IMMUNIZA-
15	TIONS.
16	"A group health plan, and a health insurance issuer
17	offering group health insurance coverage, shall provide for
18	coverage, without the application of deductibles, coinsur-
19	ance, or copayments, of vaccines recommended for routine
20	use by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
21	(as established by the Secretary, acting through the Direc-
22	tor of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
23	and their administration.".

1	(d) Exception for Collective Bargaining
2	AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed
3	to preempt any provision of a collective bargaining agree-
4	ment that is in effect on the date of enactment of this
5	section.
6	(e) Effective Date.—The amendments made by
7	this section shall apply to plan years beginning with the
8	first plan year during which the Congressional Budget Of-
9	fice determines that any health reform legislation enacted
10	by Congress will provide health insurance coverage to 95
11	percent or more of the population of the United States.
12	SEC. 10. IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION SYSTEMS.
13	(a) Health Information Technology Infra-
14	STRUCTURE.—Section 3011(a) of the Public Health Serv-
15	ice Act (as added by section 13301 of the American Recov-
16	ery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) is amended by adding
17	at the end the following:
18	"(8) Improvement and expansion of immuniza-
19	tion information systems (as defined in section
20	3000), including activities to—
21	"(A) support the integration and linkage of
22	such systems with electronic birth records,
23	health care providers, other preventive health
24	services information systems, and health infor-
25	mation exchanges:

1	"(B) support interstate data exchange;
2	"(C) ensure that such systems are inter-
3	operable with electronic health record systems;
4	"(D) provide technical support, such as
5	training, data reporting, data quality and com-
6	pleteness review, and decision support, to im-
7	munization providers to integrate the use of
8	such systems;
9	"(E) develop, in consultation with manu-
10	facturers, vendors, and specialty professional
11	organizations, continuing education materials
12	relating to the use of such systems;
13	"(F) ensure that such systems can provide
14	complete and accurate data to monitor immuni-
15	zation coverage, uptake, and the impact of
16	shortages in the population served within their
17	jurisdiction; and
18	"(G) ensure the privacy, confidentiality,
19	and security of all data and data exchanges
20	with such systems.".
21	(b) STATE GRANTS.—Section 3013(d) of the Public
22	Health Service Act (as added by section 13301 of the
23	American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) is
24	amended—

1	(1) in paragraph (9), by striking "and" at the
2	end;
3	(2) by redesignating paragraph (10) as para-
4	graph (11); and
5	(3) by inserting after paragraph (9), the fol-
6	lowing:
7	"(10) improving and expanding immunization
8	information systems (as defined in section 3000);
9	and".
10	(e) Definition.—Section 3000 of the Public Health
11	Service Act (as added by section 13301 of the American
12	Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) is amended—
13	(1) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through
14	(14) as paragraphs (10) through (15), respectively;
15	and
16	(2) by inserting after paragraph (8), the fol-
17	lowing:
18	"(9) Immunization information system.—
19	The term 'immunization information system' means
20	an immunization registry or a confidential, popu-
21	lation-based, computerized information system that
22	collects vaccination data within a geographic area,
23	consolidates vaccination records from multiple health
24	care providers, generates reminder and recall notifi-

- 1 cations, and is capable of exchanging immunization
- 2 information with health care providers.".

3 SEC. 11. REPORTS.

- 4 (a) Costs of Public and Private Vaccine Ad-
- 5 MINISTRATION.—Not later than 5 years after the date of
- 6 enactment of this Act, and every 5 years thereafter, the
- 7 Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
- 8 tion jointly with the Administrator of the Centers for
- 9 Medicare & Medicaid Services shall collect and publish
- 10 data relating to the costs associated with public and pri-
- 11 vate vaccine administration, including the costs associated
- 12 with the delivery of vaccines, activities such as reporting
- 13 data to immunization registries, and maintenance of ap-
- 14 propriate storage requirements for vaccines.
- 15 (b) Section 317 Immunization Program.—Not
- 16 later than February 1, 2010, and each February 1 there-
- 17 after, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and
- 18 Prevention shall submit to Congress a report concerning
- 19 the size and scope of the appropriations needed for each
- 20 fiscal year for vaccine purchases, vaccination infrastruc-
- 21 ture, vaccine administration, and vaccine safety under sec-
- 22 tion 317 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
- 23 247b).
- 24 (c) Annual Publication of State-Established
- 25 Administrative Fees Under Medicaid.—Beginning

- 1 October 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, the Adminis-
- 2 trator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- 3 and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and
- 4 Prevention jointly shall make publicly available the admin-
- 5 istrative fee established under each State Medicaid pro-
- 6 gram for administering a qualified pediatric vaccine to a
- 7 vaccine-eligible child under the Vaccines for Children pro-
- 8 gram under section 1928 of the Social Security Act (42
- 9 U.S.C. 1396s) with the State and Federal contribution for
- 10 such fee separately identified.

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