

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 56

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the restriction that a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker provide services in a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility to a patient only under the care of a physician.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 6, 2009

Mr. INOUE 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 remove the restriction that a clinical psychologist or clinical social worker provide services in a comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation facility to a patient only under the care of a physician.

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 “Autonomy for Psy-
5 chologists and Social Workers Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF RESTRICTION THAT A CLINICAL PSY-**
2 **CHOLOGIST OR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER**
3 **PROVIDE SERVICES IN A COMPREHENSIVE**
4 **OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION FACILITY TO**
5 **A PATIENT ONLY UNDER THE CARE OF A**
6 **PHYSICIAN.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(cc)(2)(E) of the So-
8 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(cc)(2)(E)) is amended
9 by striking “physician” and inserting “physician, except
10 that a patient receiving qualified psychologist services (as
11 defined in subsection (ii)) may be under the care of a clin-
12 ical psychologist with respect to such services to the extent
13 permitted under State law and except that a patient re-
14 ceiving clinical social worker services (as defined in sub-
15 section (hh)(2)) may be under the care of a clinical social
16 worker with respect to such services to the extent per-
17 mitted under State law”.

18 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
19 subsection (a) shall apply to services provided on or after
20 January 1, 2010.

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