

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4120

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2012

Mr. DENT (for himself, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. PAYNE) 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

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

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 “Removing Barriers to  
5 Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Colorectal cancer is the second leading  
4 cause of cancer death among men and women in the  
5 United States.

6 (2) It is estimated that 143,460 new cases of  
7 colorectal cancer are expected to occur in 2012.

8 (3) More than 50,000 people in the United  
9 States are expected to die from colorectal cancer in  
10 2012.

11 (4) It is estimated that if all precancerous pol-  
12yps were identified and removed before becoming  
13 cancerous, estimates show the number of new  
14 colorectal cancer cases could be reduced by 76 to 90  
15 percent and deaths could be reduced by 70 to 90  
16 percent.

17 (5) Although colorectal cancer is largely pre-  
18 ventable, one in three adults between the ages of 50  
19 and 75 are not up to date with recommended  
20 colorectal cancer screening.

21 (6) Two-thirds of colorectal cancer cases are di-  
22 agnosed in patients over the age of 65.

23 (7) Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy is a  
24 highly effective preventive service, and removing fi-  
25 nancial barriers can help to increase rates of screen-  
26 ing.

1 **SEC. 3. WAIVING MEDICARE COINSURANCE FOR**  
2 **COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING TESTS.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1833(a)(1)(Y) of the So-  
4 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(Y)) is amended  
5 by inserting “, including tests and procedures described  
6 in the last sentence of subsection (b),” after “section  
7 1861(ddd)(3)”.

8 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
9 subsection (a) shall apply to items and services furnished  
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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