

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1070

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2013

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

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 2013”.

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, killing more non-smokers than any
6 other cancer.

7 (2) Every year, more than 140,000 Americans
8 are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and more than
9 50,000 Americans will die from it.

10 (3) Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy al-
11 lows for the detection and removal of polyps, or ab-
12 normal growths, that could become cancerous, as
13 well as for the early detection of colorectal cancer
14 when treatment can be most effective.

15 (4) If all precancerous polyps were identified
16 and removed before becoming cancerous, estimates
17 show the number of new colorectal cancer cases
18 could be reduced by 76 to 90 percent and deaths
19 could be reduced by 70 to 90 percent.

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

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

1 (7) Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy is a
2 highly effective preventive service, and removing fi-
3 nancial barriers can help to increase rates of screen-
4 ing.

5 **SEC. 3. WAIVING MEDICARE COINSURANCE FOR**
6 **COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING TESTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1)(Y) of the So-
8 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(Y)) is amended
9 by inserting “, including a colorectal cancer screening test
10 (regardless of the code that is billed for the establishment
11 of a diagnosis as a result of the test, or for the removal
12 of tissue or other procedure that is furnished in connection
13 with, as a result of, and in the same clinical encounter
14 as the screening test),” after “section 1861(ddd)(3)”.

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
16 subsection (a) shall apply to items and services furnished
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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