

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 855

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require Medicaid coverage of optometrists.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2013

Mr. HALL (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TERRY, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. WHITFIELD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require Medicaid coverage of optometrists.

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 “Optometric Equity in
5 Medicaid Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING COVERAGE OF SERVICES OF OPTOM-**
7 **ETRISTS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1905(a)(5) of the Social
9 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(5)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “and” before “(B)”;

2 (2) by inserting before the semicolon at the end
3 the following: “, and (C) medical and other health
4 services (as defined in section 1861(s)) as authorized
5 by State law, furnished by an optometrist (described
6 in section 1861(r)(4)) to the extent such services
7 may be performed under State law”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
10 graph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a)
11 shall take effect 90 days after the date of the enact-
12 ment of this Act and shall apply to services fur-
13 nished and other actions required on or after such
14 date.

15 (2) RULE FOR CHANGES REQUIRING STATE
16 LEGISLATION.—In the case of a State plan for med-
17 ical assistance under title XIX of the Social Security
18 Act which the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
19 ices determines requires State legislation (other than
20 legislation appropriating funds) in order for the plan
21 to meet the additional requirement imposed by the
22 amendments made by subsection (a), the State plan
23 shall not be regarded as failing to comply with the
24 requirements of such title solely on the basis of its
25 failure to meet this additional requirement before

1 the first day of the first calendar quarter beginning
2 after the close of the first regular session of the
3 State legislature that begins after the date of the en-
4 actment of this Act. For purposes of the previous
5 sentence, in the case of a State that has a 2-year
6 legislative session, each year of such session shall be
7 deemed to be a separate regular session of the State
8 legislature.

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