

Union Calendar No. 114

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2506

[Report No. 114–158, Part I]

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to delay the authority to terminate Medicare Advantage contracts for MA plans failing to achieve minimum quality ratings.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2015

Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. RANGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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

JUNE 16, 2015

Additional sponsors: Ms. SINEMA, Mr. DESJARLAIS, and Mr. MURPHY of Florida

JUNE 16, 2015

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Means with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

JUNE 16, 2015

The Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 21, 2015]

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to delay the authority to terminate Medicare Advantage contracts for MA plans failing to achieve minimum quality ratings.

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 “Seniors’ Health Care*
5 *Plan Protection Act of 2015”.*

6 **SEC. 2. DELAY IN AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE CONTRACTS**
7 **FOR MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS FAILING**
8 **TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM QUALITY RATINGS.**

9 *(a) FINDINGS.—Consistent with the studies provided*
10 *under the IMPACT Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–185), it*
11 *is the intent of Congress—*

12 *(1) to continue to study and request input on the*
13 *effects of socioeconomic status and dual-eligible popu-*
14 *lations on the Medicare Advantage STARS rating*
15 *system before reforming such system with the input of*
16 *stakeholders; and*

17 *(2) pending the results of such studies and input,*
18 *to provide for a temporary delay in authority of the*
19 *Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to*
20 *terminate Medicare Advantage plan contracts solely*
21 *on the basis of performance of plans under the*
22 *STARS rating system.*

23 *(b) DELAY IN MA CONTRACT TERMINATION AUTHOR-*
24 *ITY FOR PLANS FAILING TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM QUALITY*
25 *RATINGS.—Section 1857(h) of the Social Security Act (42*

1 *U.S.C. 1395w–27(h)) is amended by adding at the end the*
2 *following new paragraph:*

3 “(3) *DELAY IN CONTRACT TERMINATION AU-*
4 *THORITY FOR PLANS FAILING TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM*
5 *QUALITY RATING.—The Secretary may not terminate*
6 *a contract under this section with respect to the offer-*
7 *ing of an MA plan by a Medicare Advantage organi-*
8 *zation solely because the MA plan has failed to*
9 *achieve a minimum quality rating under the 5-star*
10 *rating system established under section 1853(o) dur-*
11 *ing the period beginning on the date of the enactment*
12 *of this paragraph and through the end of plan year*
13 *2018.”.*

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