

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2704

To establish a Community-Based Institutional Special Needs Plan demonstration program to target home and community-based care to eligible Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2015

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California (for herself and Mr. MEEHAN) 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

A BILL

To establish a Community-Based Institutional Special Needs Plan demonstration program to target home and community-based care to eligible Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

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 “Community Based
5 Independence for Seniors Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Community-based services play an essential
4 role in keeping individuals healthy.

5 (2) Without community-based long-term serv-
6 ices and supports, which are not typically covered by
7 Medicare, seniors frequently experience negative
8 health outcomes and lose their ability to live inde-
9 pendently.

10 (3) Seniors who deplete their resources often
11 have no option but to turn to Medicaid for coverage
12 of long-term care expenses.

13 (4) Targeting community-based services and
14 supports to at-risk seniors can help these individuals
15 avoid depleting their assets and becoming Medicaid
16 dependent.

17 **SEC. 3. COMMUNITY-BASED INSTITUTIONAL SPECIAL**
18 **NEEDS PLAN DEMONSTRATION.**

19 Part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act is
20 amended by inserting after section 1859 (42 U.S.C.
21 1395w-28) the following new section:

22 **“SEC. 1859A. COMMUNITY-BASED INSTITUTIONAL SPECIAL**
23 **NEEDS PLAN DEMONSTRATION.**

24 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

25 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall estab-
26 lish a Community-Based Institutional Special Needs

1 Plan demonstration program (in this section referred
2 to as the ‘CBI-SNP demonstration program’) to pro-
3 vide home and community-based care to eligible
4 Medicare beneficiaries.

5 “(2) AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall enter
6 into agreements with eligible MA organizations
7 under which such organizations shall offer eligible
8 MA plans under the CBI-SNP demonstration pro-
9 gram to eligible Medicare beneficiaries.

10 “(3) LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF PLANS.—The
11 CBI-SNP demonstration program shall be carried
12 out with respect to not greater than five MA plans.

13 “(4) ELIGIBLE MA PLANS DEFINED.—For pur-
14 poses of this section, the term ‘eligible MA plan’
15 means a plan that, in addition to items and services
16 for which coverage is otherwise provided under this
17 part (including benefits under section 1852(a)(3)
18 and notwithstanding any waivers under section
19 1915(e)), provides for coverage of long-term care
20 services and supports that the Secretary determines
21 appropriate for the purposes of the CBI-SNP dem-
22 onstration program, such as—

23 “(A) homemaker services;

24 “(B) home delivered meals;

25 “(C) transportation services;

1 “(D) respite care;

2 “(E) adult day care services; and

3 “(F) safety and other equipment not other-
4 wise covered under this title.

5 “(b) ELIGIBLE MA ORGANIZATIONS.—For purposes
6 of this section, the term ‘eligible MA organization’ means
7 an MA organization that—

8 “(1) has experience in offering specialized MA
9 plans for special needs individuals, as defined in sec-
10 tion 1859(b)(6)(A), to individuals who live in the
11 community in which the eligible MA plan is offered;

12 “(2) has experience working with low-income
13 seniors groups;

14 “(3) is located in a State that the Secretary has
15 determined is able to participate in the CBI-SNP
16 demonstration program by agreeing to make avail-
17 able data necessary for purposes of conducting the
18 independent evaluation required under subsection
19 (h); and

20 “(4) meets such other criteria as the Secretary
21 may require.

22 “(c) ELIGIBLE MEDICARE BENEFICIARY DE-
23 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘eligible Medicare bene-
24 ficiary’ means a Medicare beneficiary who—

1 “(1) is eligible to enroll in an eligible MA plan
2 under the CBI-SNP demonstration program;

3 “(2) is a subsidy eligible individual (as defined
4 in section 1860D–14(a)(3)(A));

5 “(3) is not eligible to receive benefits under title
6 XIX;

7 “(4) is unable to perform 2 or more activities
8 of daily living (as defined in section 7702B(c)(2)(B)
9 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986); and

10 “(5) is age 65 or older.

11 “(d) PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall establish a
12 benchmark payment amount for reimbursing eligible MA
13 organizations offering eligible MA plans under the CBI-
14 SNP demonstration program for benefits covered under
15 such program (and not otherwise covered under part C)
16 and provided to eligible Medicare beneficiaries under such
17 plans. Such payments shall be in addition to payments
18 otherwise made to such organization with respect to such
19 plans under part C.

20 “(e) SPECIAL ELECTION PERIOD.—Notwithstanding
21 sections 1852(e)(2)(C) and 1860D–1(b)(1)(B)(iii), an eli-
22 gible Medicare beneficiary may, other than during the an-
23 nual, coordinated election periods under such sections—

24 “(1) discontinue enrollment in an MA plan not
25 participating in the CBI-SNP demonstration pro-

1 gram and enroll in an MA plan participating in such
2 program; and

3 “(2) discontinue enrollment under the original
4 medicare fee-for-service program under parts A and
5 B and the enrollment in a prescription drug plan
6 under part D and enroll in an MA plan participating
7 in the CBI-SNP demonstration program.

8 “(f) BENEFICIARY EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall
9 help to educate, through State Health Insurance Assist-
10 ance Programs and other organizations that assist seniors
11 with respect to benefits and enrollment under this title,
12 eligible Medicare beneficiaries on the availability of the
13 CBI-SNP demonstration program.

14 “(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—

15 “(1) DEADLINE.—The CBI-SNP demonstration
16 program shall be implemented not later than Janu-
17 ary 1 of the second year beginning after the date of
18 the enactment of this section.

19 “(2) DURATION.—Subject to paragraph (3), the
20 CBI-SNP demonstration program shall be conducted
21 for a period of five years.

22 “(3) EXTENSION OR EXPANSION.—Taking into
23 account the report under subsection (h)(2), the Sec-
24 retary may, through rulemaking, expand (including
25 implementation on a nationwide or permanent basis)

1 the duration or the scope CBI-SNP demonstration
2 program to the extent determined appropriate by the
3 Secretary, unless the Secretary determines that such
4 expansion is expected to—

5 “(A) increase aggregate expenditures
6 under this title and title XIX with respect to el-
7 igible Medicare beneficiaries participating in the
8 CBI-SNP demonstration program; or

9 “(B) decrease the quality of health care
10 services furnished to eligible Medicare bene-
11 ficiaries participating in the CBI-SNP dem-
12 onstration program.

13 “(h) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION AND REPORTS.—

14 “(1) INDEPENDENT EVALUATION.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
16 provide for the evaluation of the CBI-SNP dem-
17 onstration program by an independent third
18 party.

19 “(B) EVALUATION OBJECTIVES.—Such
20 evaluation shall determine the extent to which
21 the CBI-SNP demonstration program has re-
22 sulted in—

23 “(i) improved patient care;

24 “(ii) reduced hospitalizations or rehos-
25 pitalizations;

1 “(iii) reduced or delayed nursing facil-
2 ity admissions and lengths of stay under
3 title XIX;

4 “(iv) reduced spend down of income
5 and assets for purposes of becoming eligi-
6 ble for medical assistance under a State
7 plan under title XIX;

8 “(v) improved quality of life for the
9 eligible Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in
10 an eligible MA plan participating in the
11 CBI-SNP demonstration program; and

12 “(vi) improved caregiver satisfaction.

13 “(C) EVALUATION PROCESS.—Such eval-
14 uation shall be completed in accordance with
15 the following process:

16 “(i) The Secretary shall, prior to the
17 implementation of such program, establish
18 goals for such program with respect to the
19 evaluation objectives described in subpara-
20 graph (B) and criteria for measuring the
21 extent to which an eligible MA plan par-
22 ticipating in the CBI-SNP demonstration
23 program meets such goals.

24 “(ii) The Secretary shall implement
25 clear data collection and reporting require-

1 ments for such eligible MA plans in order
2 to carry out such evaluation.

3 In carrying out such process, the Secretary
4 shall recognize that definitions, benefits, and
5 program requirements for long-term care serv-
6 ices and supports vary across States.

7 “(2) REPORTS.—Not later than four years after
8 the implementation of the CBI-SNP demonstration
9 program, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a
10 report containing the results of the evaluation con-
11 ducted under paragraph (1), together with such rec-
12 ommendations for legislative or administrative action
13 as the Secretary determines appropriate. In pre-
14 paring such report, the Secretary shall use at least
15 three years worth of data under the demonstration
16 program.

17 “(i) BUDGET NEUTRALITY.—For any year after the
18 third year of the CBI-SNP demonstration program, the
19 Secretary shall ensure that the aggregate payments made
20 under this title and title XIX, including under the dem-
21 onstration program, do not exceed the amount which the
22 Secretary estimates would have been expended under such
23 titles during such year if the CBI-SNP demonstration pro-
24 gram had not been implemented.

1 “(j) PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter 35 of
2 title 44, United States Code, shall not apply to the testing
3 and evaluation of the CBI-SNP demonstration program.”.

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