

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6088

To delay for one year the release of the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Mr. RENACCI (for himself, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio) 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 delay for one year the release of the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings, 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 “Hospital Quality Rat-
5 ing Transparency Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. ONE-YEAR DELAY FOR RELEASE OF OVERALL HOS-**
2 **PITAL QUALITY STAR RATINGS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services, with respect to any Overall Hospital
5 Quality Star Ratings for hospitals developed or imple-
6 mented pursuant to section 1886(b)(3)(B)(viii)(VII) of
7 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1395ww(b)(3)(B)(viii)(VII)) or section 1833(t)(17)(E) of
9 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(t)(17)(E)) (such as ratings
10 generated by the rating system described in the Fact
11 Sheet issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Serv-
12 ices through the QualityNet Internet website entitled
13 “Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings Fact Sheet, July
14 2016 Preview Period”)—

15 (1) shall make publicly available detailed infor-
16 mation on the methodology used to calculate such
17 Ratings;

18 (2) shall have the validity and accuracy of such
19 methodology confirmed by an independent statisti-
20 cian not otherwise engaged by the Secretary in star
21 ratings measure development activities;

22 (3) shall provide, with respect to the ratings
23 system that is to use such methodology and data to
24 calculate such Ratings, a public comment period
25 that—

1 (A) begins on a date that is after the date
2 on which the Secretary, under paragraph (1),
3 makes publicly available the detailed informa-
4 tion described in such paragraph; and

5 (B) is at least 60 days in duration; and

6 (4) may not make such Ratings publicly avail-
7 able (such as by publishing on the Internet website
8 commonly known as the “Hospital Compare”
9 website) on a date that is before the latest of—

10 (A) the date on which the independent
11 statistician described in paragraph (2) provides
12 the confirmation described in such paragraph;

13 (B) the date on which the public comment
14 period described in paragraph (3) concludes;
15 and

16 (C) July 31, 2017.

17 (b) APPLICATION IN CASE OF PUBLICATION BEFORE
18 ENACTMENT.—In the case that the Secretary publishes
19 such Ratings on the Internet website commonly known as
20 the “Hospital Compare” website on a date that is before
21 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
22 apply subsection (a) by—

23 (1) removing such Ratings from such Internet
24 website as soon as is practicable; and

1 (2) in accordance with subsection (a)(4), not re-
2 publishing after the date of the enactment of this
3 Act any such Ratings on such Internet website or
4 otherwise so making any such Ratings publicly avail-
5 able on a date that is before the latest of the dates
6 described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of
7 such subsection.

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