II

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2148

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent an increase in the Medicare part B premium and deductible in 2016.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 7, 2015

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CARPER, Mr. UDALL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COONS, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent an increase in the Medicare part B premium and deductible in 2016.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ‘‘Protecting Medicare Beneficiaries Act of 2015’’.

SEC. 2. PREVENTING MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM AND DEDUCTIBLE INCREASES IN 2016.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1839(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395r(a)) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence of paragraph (1), by striking ‘‘Such’’ and inserting ‘‘Subject to paragraph (5), such’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

‘‘(5) In applying this part (including subsection (i) and section 1833(b)), the monthly actuarial rate for enrollees age 65 and over for 2016 shall be equal to the monthly actuarial rate for such enrollees for 2015.’’.

(b) CONFORMING FUNDING.—Section 1844(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting ‘‘; plus’’; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

‘‘(4) a Government contribution equal to, as estimated by the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the reduction in aggregate premiums payable for a month under this part that is attributable to the application of section 1839(a)(5) with respect to—

‘‘(A) enrollees age 65 and over; and

‘‘(B) enrollees under age 65.

In applying paragraph (1), the Government contribution under paragraph (4) with respect to enrollees described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such paragraph (4) shall be treated as premiums payable and deposited in the Trust Fund under subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, of paragraph (1).''.

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