

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1589

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the phaseout of the health insurance tax credit for geographic variations in the cost-of-living.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 16, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Ms. ESHOO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the phaseout of the health insurance tax credit for geographic variations in the cost-of-living.

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 “Fair Access to Health
5 Care Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PHASEOUT OF HEALTH INSURANCE TAX CREDIT**
 2 **ADJUSTED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GEO-**
 3 **GRAPHIC VARIATION IN THE COST-OF-LIV-**
 4 **ING.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 36B(b) of the Internal
 6 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end
 7 the following new paragraph:

8 “(4) GEOGRAPHIC ADJUSTMENT FOR COST-OF-
 9 LIVING.—

10 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a tax-
 11 payer whose principal place of residence for any
 12 taxable year is located in a high cost area, there
 13 shall be substituted ‘the specified percentage’
 14 for ‘400 percent’ in paragraph (3)(A)(i) and in
 15 subsections (c)(1)(A) and (f)(2)(B).

16 “(B) HIGH COST AREA.—For purposes of
 17 this paragraph, the term ‘high cost area’ means
 18 any metropolitan statistical area or non-metro-
 19 politan area the SPM for which exceeds the na-
 20 tional average SPM.

21 “(C) SPECIFIED PERCENTAGE.—For pur-
 22 poses of this paragraph, the term ‘specified per-
 23 centage’ means, with respect to a taxpayer
 24 whose principal place of residence for any tax-
 25 able year is located in a high cost area, the

1 product of 400 percent and the SPM adjust-
2 ment for such area.

3 “(D) SPM.—For purposes of this para-
4 graph—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘SPM’
6 means, with respect to each calendar year,
7 the Supplemental Poverty Measure as de-
8 termined by the Bureau of the Census.

9 “(ii) NATIONAL AVERAGE SPM.—The
10 national average SPM shall be determined
11 without regard to Alaska and Hawaii.

12 “(iii) DETERMINATION FOR TAXABLE
13 YEAR BASED ON PRECEDING CALENDAR
14 YEAR.—SPM with respect to any taxable
15 year shall be determined on the basis of
16 the calendar year preceding the calendar
17 year in which the taxable year begins.

18 “(E) SPM ADJUSTMENT.—For purposes of
19 this paragraph, the term ‘SPM adjustment’
20 means, with respect to a high cost area for a
21 calendar year, the SPM adjustment as deter-
22 mined by the Bureau of the Census.

23 “(F) ALTERNATIVE MEASURE OF COST-OF-
24 LIVING.—If the Secretary determines that an-
25 other measure of cost-of-living is more appro-

1 priate than the SPM for purposes of this para-
2 graph, the Secretary shall use such measure in
3 lieu of the SPM.”.

4 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
5 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
6 December 31, 2016.

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