

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6936

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for health insurance costs of eligible retirees.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Mr. BERA (for himself, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. MOULTON) 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 allow a deduction for health insurance costs of eligible retirees.

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 “Bridge to Medicare
5 Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEDUCTION FOR HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF**
7 **ELIGIBLE RETIREES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part VII of subchapter B of chap-
9 ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to
10 additional itemized deductions) is amended by redesignig-

1 nating section 224 as section 225 and by inserting after
 2 section 223 the following new section:

3 **“SEC. 224. HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF ELIGIBLE RETIR-**
 4 **EES.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible retiree,
 6 there shall be allowed as a deduction an amount equal to
 7 the amount paid during the taxable year for premiums for
 8 a health plan offered in the individual market within a
 9 State (within the meaning of section 5000A), for the tax-
 10 payer, or the taxpayer’s spouse or dependents.

11 “(b) ELIGIBLE RETIREE.—For purposes of this sec-
 12 tion, the term ‘eligible retiree’ means, for a taxable year,
 13 an individual—

14 “(1) with no earned income (as such term is de-
 15 fined in section 32(c)(2)) for such taxable year,

16 “(2) who is not entitled to hospital insurance
 17 benefits under part A of title XVIII of the Social Se-
 18 curity Act or enrolled under part B of such title, and

19 “(3) who is not an individual who is allowed a
 20 credit under section 36B.

21 “(c) COORDINATION WITH MEDICAL DEDUCTION,
 22 ETC.—Any amount paid by an eligible retiree for insur-
 23 ance to which subsection (a) applies shall not be taken
 24 into account in computing the amount allowable to the
 25 taxpayer as a deduction under section 162(l) or 213(a).

1 Any amount taken into account in determining the credit
 2 allowed under section 35 shall not be taken into account
 3 for purposes of this section.”.

4 (b) DEDUCTION ALLOWED IN COMPUTING AD-
 5 JUSTED GROSS INCOME.—Subsection (a) of section 62 of
 6 such Code is amended by inserting before the last sentence
 7 the following new paragraph:

8 “(21) HEALTH INSURANCE COSTS OF ELIGIBLE
 9 RETIREES.—The deduction allowed by section 224.”.

10 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 11 for part VII of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code
 12 is amended by redesignating the item relating to section
 13 224 as an item relating to section 225 and inserting before
 14 such item the following new item:

“Sec. 224. Health insurance costs of eligible retirees.”.

15 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 16 this section shall apply to amounts paid in taxable years
 17 beginning after December 31, 2018.

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