

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7157

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage for all physicians' services furnished by doctors of chiropractic within the scope of their license, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Mr. PAULSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage for all physicians' services furnished by doctors of chiropractic within the scope of their license, 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 “Chiropractic Patients’
5 Freedom of Choice Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.**

2 It is the purpose of this Act to expand recognition
3 and coverage of a doctor of chiropractic as a “physician”
4 under the Medicare program in connection with the per-
5 formance of any function or action, including current serv-
6 ice of “manual manipulation of the spine to correct a sub-
7 luxation as demonstrated to exist”, as is legally authorized
8 by the State in which such doctor performs such function
9 or action.

10 **SEC. 3. PROVIDING MEDICARE COVERAGE FOR ALL PHYSI-**
11 **CIA NS’ SERVICES FURNISHED BY DOCTORS**
12 **OF CHIROPRACTIC WITHIN THE SCOPE OF**
13 **THEIR LICENSE.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(r) of the Social Se-
15 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(r)) is amended by striking
16 “a chiropractor who is licensed as such by the State (or
17 in a State which does not license chiropractors as such,
18 is legally authorized to perform the services of a chiro-
19 practor in the jurisdiction in which he performs such serv-
20 ices), and who meets uniform minimum standards promul-
21 gated by the Secretary, but only for the purpose of sec-
22 tions 1861(s)(1) and 1861(s)(2)(A) and only with respect
23 to treatment by means of manual manipulation of the
24 spine (to correct a subluxation) which he is legally author-
25 ized to perform by the State or jurisdiction in which such
26 treatment is provided” and inserting “a doctor of chiro-

1 practice who is licensed as a doctor of chiropractic or a
2 chiropractor by the State in which the function or action
3 is performed and whose license provides legal authoriza-
4 tion to perform such function or action in such State or
5 in the jurisdiction in which the function or action is per-
6 formed”.

7 (b) CERTAIN COVERAGE LIMITS.—Section 1833(aa)
8 of the Social Security Act is amended by adding at the
9 end the following:

10 “(11) LIMITATION ON PAYMENT.—Notwith-
11 standing any other provision of this part, in the case
12 of services of a chiropractor described in section
13 1861(r)(5) whose pattern of billing for the most re-
14 cent previous period for which data is available is
15 determined under paragraph (1) to be aberrant com-
16 pared to peers, payment may be made under this
17 part only if such services are treatment by means of
18 manual manipulation of the spine.”.

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