

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3194

To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to cap prescription drug cost-sharing, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2018

Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to cap prescription drug cost-sharing, 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 “Capping Prescription
5 Costs Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. CAP ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG COST-SHARING.**

2 (a) QUALIFIED HEALTH PLANS.—Section 1302(c) of
3 the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42
4 U.S.C. 18022(c)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (3)(A)(i), by inserting “, in-
6 cluding cost-sharing with respect to prescription
7 drugs covered by the plan” after “charges”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(5) PRESCRIPTION DRUG COST-SHARING.—

10 “(A) 2020.—For plan years beginning in
11 2020, the cost-sharing incurred under a health
12 plan with respect to prescription drugs covered
13 by the plan shall not exceed \$250 per month for
14 each enrolled individual, or \$500 for each fam-
15 ily.

16 “(B) 2021 AND LATER.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any
18 plan year beginning in a calendar year
19 after 2020, the limitation under this para-
20 graph shall be equal to the applicable dol-
21 lar amount under subparagraph (A) for
22 plan years beginning in 2020, increased by
23 an amount equal to the product of that
24 amount and the medical care component of
25 the consumer price index for all urban con-

1 sumers (as published by the Bureau of
2 Labor Statistics) for that year.

3 “(ii) ADJUSTMENT TO AMOUNT.—If
4 the amount of any increase under clause
5 (i) is not a multiple of \$5, such increase
6 shall be rounded to the next lowest mul-
7 tiple of \$5.”.

8 (b) GROUP HEALTH PLANS.—Section 2707(b) of the
9 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–6(b)) is
10 amended—

11 (1) by striking “annual”; and

12 (2) by striking “paragraph (1) of section
13 1302(c)” and inserting “paragraphs (1) and (5) of
14 section 1302(c) of the Patient Protection and Af-
15 fordable Care Act”.

16 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect with respect to
18 plans beginning after December 31, 2019.

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