

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 46

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 5, 2017

Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. BENNET) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs under the Medicare program.

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 “Strengthening Medi-
5 care Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs Act of
6 2017”.

7 **SEC. 2. REVISED REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICARE INTEN-**
8 **SIVE CARE REHABILITATION PROGRAMS.**

9 Section 1861(eee)(4) of the Social Security Act (42
10 U.S.C. 1395x(eee)(4)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

2 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

3 (i) by striking “physician-supervised
4 program (as described in paragraph (2))”
5 and inserting “program (supervised as de-
6 scribed in paragraph (2))”; and

7 (ii) by striking “, in peer-reviewed
8 published research, that it accomplished”
9 and inserting “in peer-reviewed published
10 research of its own program, that by life-
11 style changes alone it accomplished”;

12 (B) in clause (i)—

13 (i) in subclause (I), by striking “posi-
14 tively affected” and inserting “reversed”;

15 (ii) in subclause (II), by striking “or”
16 and inserting “and”; and

17 (iii) by striking subclause (III);

18 (C) in clause (ii), in the matter preceding
19 subclause (I), by inserting “both a statistically
20 significant increase in the measure of blood flow
21 to the heart when compared to a control group
22 and” before “a statistically significant”; and

23 (D) by adding at the end the following new
24 sentence:

1 “Programs that the Secretary approved under this para-
 2 graph before August 1, 2015, as intensive cardiac rehabili-
 3 tation programs according to the requirements under this
 4 subparagraph before the date of the enactment of the
 5 Strengthening Medicare Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation
 6 Programs Act of 2017 shall be deemed to meet the re-
 7 quirements under this subparagraph applied pursuant to
 8 the amendments made by such Act.”; and

9 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

10 (A) in clause (v), by striking at the end
 11 “or”;

12 (B) in clause (vi), by striking at the end
 13 the period; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following new
 15 clauses:

16 “(vii) stable, chronic heart failure (defined
 17 as patients with left ventricular ejection fraction
 18 of 35 percent or less and New York Heart As-
 19 sociation (NYHA) class II to IV symptoms de-
 20 spite being on optimal heart failure therapy for
 21 at least 6 weeks); or

22 “(viii) any additional condition for which
 23 the Secretary has determined that a cardiac re-
 24 habilitation program shall be covered.”.

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