

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8834

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Independence at Home Medical Practice Demonstration Program under the Medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 2, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL (for herself, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. THOMPSON of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 extend and improve the Independence at Home Medical Practice Demonstration Program 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 “Independence at Home
5 Demonstration Improvement Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENDING AND IMPROVING THE INDEPENDENCE**
2 **AT HOME MEDICAL PRACTICE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM UNDER THE MEDICARE PRO-**
3 **GRAM.**

4
5 Section 1866E of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
6 1395cc-5) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (e)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “7” and
9 inserting “10”;

10 (B) in paragraph (2)—

11 (i) in the header, by striking “No
12 PHYSICIAN” and inserting “PHYSICIAN”;
13 and

14 (ii) by adding at the end the following
15 new sentence: “Nothing in the previous
16 sentence shall be construed to prohibit an
17 independence at home medical practice
18 from participating in any model or dem-
19 onstration with a shared savings compo-
20 nent under this title (other than the pro-
21 gram under section 1899) or under section
22 1115A if such participation is determined
23 appropriate by the Secretary.”; and

24 (C) in paragraph (4)—

25 (i) by redesignating subparagraphs
26 (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through

1 (iii), respectively, and adjusting the mar-
2 gins accordingly;

3 (ii) in clause (i), as so redesignated,
4 by inserting “are” before “located”;

5 (iii) in clause (iii), as so redesignated,
6 by striking the period at the end and in-
7 serting “; and”;

8 (iv) in the matter preceding clause (i),
9 as so redesignated, by striking “to prac-
10 tices that are—” and inserting the fol-
11 lowing: “to—

12 “(A) practices that—”; and

13 (v) by adding at the end the following
14 new subparagraph:

15 “(B) practices with the same tax identi-
16 fication number as an independence at home
17 medical practice approved under this paragraph
18 as of the date of the enactment of this subpara-
19 graph.”; and

20 (D) in paragraph (5)—

21 (i) in the first sentence, by inserting
22 “in 2019” after “15,000”;

23 (ii) by inserting “For each subsequent
24 year, the beneficiary limitation in effect
25 under this paragraph for the previous year

1 (including, if applicable, any increase made
2 under this sentence) shall be increased by
3 5,000 if the Secretary determines that op-
4 eration of the program under this section
5 for such previous year resulted in aggre-
6 gate savings under this title for such year
7 compared to expenditures under this title
8 for such year had such program not been
9 in effect.” after the first sentence;

10 (iii) by striking “the increase from
11 10,000 to 15,000 in the preceding sen-
12 tence” and inserting “an increase”;

13 (iv) by inserting “or the amendment
14 made by section 2(1)(D)(ii) of the Inde-
15 pendence at Home Demonstration Im-
16 provement Act of 2020” after “Social
17 Services Act”;

18 (v) by striking “and seventh” and in-
19 serting “through tenth”; and

20 (vi) by inserting “, as applicable”
21 after “such program”;

22 (2) in subsection (g)—

23 (A) by striking “The Secretary shall” and
24 inserting the following:

1 “(2) FINAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall”;
2 and

3 (B) by inserting before paragraph (2), as
4 designated by subparagraph (A), the following
5 new paragraph:

6 “(1) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall
7 conduct an independent evaluation of the demonstra-
8 tion program and submit to Congress an annual re-
9 port at the close of each performance year (begin-
10 ning with performance year 2021), including a speci-
11 fication of any improvements made to the program
12 for such year. Such report shall include an analysis
13 such improvements’ impact on coordination of care,
14 expenditures under this title, applicable beneficiary
15 access to services, and the quality of health care
16 services provided to applicable beneficiaries.”;

17 (3) in subsection (h), by striking “each of fiscal
18 years 2010 through 2015” and inserting “fiscal year
19 2021”; and

20 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
21 section:

22 “(j) AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT IMPROVEMENTS TO
23 PROGRAM.—The Secretary may make such improvements
24 to the demonstration program not inconsistent with the

1 preceding provisions of this section as the Secretary deter-
2 mines appropriate for purposes of—

3 “(1) improving coordination of care;

4 “(2) lowering expenditures;

5 “(3) increasing access to items and services
6 under the program; or

7 “(4) improving the quality of items and services
8 furnished under the program.”.

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