

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 242

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consult with State medical societies in revising the geographic adjustment factors used to determine the amount of payment for physicians' services under part B of the medicare program, to require the Secretary to base geographic-cost-of-practice indices under the program upon the most recent available data, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 27 (legislative day, JANUARY 5), 1993

Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. GLENN, Mr. BRYAN, and Mr. COHEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consult with State medical societies in revising the geographic adjustment factors used to determine the amount of payment for physicians' services under part B of the medicare program, to require the Secretary to base geographic-cost-of-practice indices under the program upon the most recent available data, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Geographic  
3 Data Accuracy Act of 1993”.

4 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING ACCURACY OF GEOGRAPHIC ADJUST-**  
5 **MENTS USED TO DETERMINE PAYMENT FOR**  
6 **PHYSICIANS’ SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE.**

7 (a) **REQUIRING CONSULTATION WITH STATE MEDI-**  
8 **CAL SOCIETIES IN REVISION OF GEOGRAPHIC ADJUST-**  
9 **MENT FACTORS.**—Section 1848(e)(1)(C) of the Social Se-  
10 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(e)(1)(C)) is amended by  
11 striking “may revise” and inserting “shall, in consultation  
12 with each State medical society (or other appropriate or-  
13 ganization representing the majority of the physicians who  
14 practice in a State), revise”.

15 (b) **BASING GEOGRAPHIC-COST-OF-PRACTICE INDI-**  
16 **CES ON MOST RECENT AVAILABLE DATA.**—

17 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1848(e)(1) of such  
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(e)(1)) is amended—

19 (A) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
20 subparagraph (D); and

21 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
22 the following new subparagraph:

23 “(C) **DATA USED TO DETERMINE INDI-**  
24 **CES.**—In establishing indices under subpara-  
25 graph (A), the Secretary shall use the most re-  
26 cent available data relating to practice ex-

1           penses, malpractice expenses, and physicians'  
2           work effort in the different fee schedule areas,  
3           and shall obtain and review the data in con-  
4           sultation with each State medical society (or  
5           other appropriate organization representing the  
6           majority of the physicians who practice in a  
7           State).”.

8           (2)    CONFORMING    AMENDMENT.—Section  
9           1848(e)(1)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-  
10          4(e)(1)(A)) is amended in the matter preceding  
11          clause (i) by striking “and (C)” and inserting “and  
12          (D)”.

13   **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

14          The amendments made by section 2 shall apply to  
15          payments for physicians’ services furnished on or after  
16          January 1, 1994.

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