

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2365

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 15 percent reduction in payment rates under the prospective payment system for home health services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 5, 2000

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. BOND, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. REED, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. HAGEL, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. GORTON, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. HELMS, Mr. ALLARD, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. L. CHAFEE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. VOINOVICH) 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 eliminate the 15 percent reduction in payment rates under the prospective payment system for home health services.

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 “Home Health Payment
5 Fairness Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF 15 PERCENT REDUCTION IN PAY-**
2 **MENT RATES UNDER THE PROSPECTIVE PAY-**
3 **MENT SYSTEM FOR HOME HEALTH SERVICES.**

4 Section 1895(b)(3)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1395fff(b)(3)(A)) (as amended by sections 302(b)
6 and 303(b) of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Bal-
7 anced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-
8 113; 113 Stat. 1501A-359 and 1501A-361) is amended
9 to read as follows:

10 “(A) INITIAL BASIS.—Under such system
11 the Secretary shall provide for computation of
12 a standard prospective payment amount (or
13 amounts). Such amount (or amounts) shall ini-
14 tially be based on the most current audited cost
15 report data available to the Secretary and shall
16 be computed in a manner so that the total
17 amounts payable under the system for the 12-
18 month period beginning on the date the Sec-
19 retary implements the system shall be equal to
20 the total amount that would have been made if
21 the system had not been in effect and if section
22 1861(v)(1)(L)(ix) had not been enacted. Each
23 such amount shall be standardized in a manner
24 that eliminates the effect of variations in rel-
25 ative case mix and area wage adjustments
26 among different home health agencies in a

1 budget neutral manner consistent with the case
2 mix and wage level adjustments provided under
3 paragraph (4)(A). Under the system, the Sec-
4 retary may recognize regional differences or dif-
5 ferences based upon whether or not the services
6 or agency are in an urbanized area.”.

○