

106<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 2937

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to Medicare+Choice plans through an increase in the annual Medicare+Choice capitation rates and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2000

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. KERREY) 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 improve access to Medicare+Choice plans through an increase in the annual Medicare+Choice capitation rates 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 “Medicare Geographic  
5 Fair Payment Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVED ACCESS TO MEDICARE+CHOICE PLANS**  
 2 **THROUGH AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL**  
 3 **MEDICARE+CHOICE CAPITATION RATES.**

4 Section 1853(e)(1)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act  
 5 (42 U.S.C. 1395w-23(e)(1)(B)(ii)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “(ii) For a succeeding year” and  
 7 inserting “(ii)(I) Subject to subclause (II), for a suc-  
 8 ceeding year”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 10 clause:

11 “(II) For 2001 for any area in any  
 12 Metropolitan Statistical Area with a popu-  
 13 lation of more than 250,000, \$525 (and  
 14 for any area outside such an area, \$475).”.

15 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT THAT THE ACTUAL PROPORTION OF**  
 16 **A HOSPITAL’S COSTS ATTRIBUTABLE TO**  
 17 **WAGES AND WAGE-RELATED COSTS BE WAGE**  
 18 **ADJUSTED.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section  
 20 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
 21 1395ww(d)(3)(E)) is amended by striking “, (as estimated  
 22 by the Secretary from time to time) of hospitals’ costs”  
 23 and inserting “of each hospital’s costs (based on the most  
 24 recent data available to the Secretary with respect to the  
 25 hospital)”.

1           (b) SPECIAL RULE FOR HOSPITALS LOCATED IN  
2 PUERTO RICO.—Section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Se-  
3 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)) is amended by  
4 adding at the end the following new sentence: “In the case  
5 of a hospital located in Puerto Rico, the first sentence of  
6 this subparagraph shall be applied as in effect on the day  
7 before the date of enactment of the Geographic Adjust-  
8 ment Fairness Act of 2000.”.

9           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
10 this section shall apply with respect to discharges occur-  
11 ring on or after January 1, 2001.

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