

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2981

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide bad debt relief for facilities providing care to certain low-income medicare beneficiaries and to amend title XIX of such Act to increase efforts to provide medicare beneficiaries with medicare cost-sharing under the medicaid program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2000

Mr. DURBIN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide bad debt relief for facilities providing care to certain low-income medicare beneficiaries and to amend title XIX of such Act to increase efforts to provide medicare beneficiaries with medicare cost-sharing under the medicaid 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 “Medicare Bad Debt
5 Relief and Medicare Cost-Sharing Eligibility Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. BAD DEBT RELIEF FOR FACILITIES PROVIDING**
2 **CARE TO CERTAIN LOW-INCOME MEDICARE**
3 **BENEFICIARIES.**

4 (a) **MEDICARE COST-SHARING UNCOLLECTIBLE AND**
5 **NOT COVERED BY MEDICAID STATE PLANS.**—Section
6 1902(n)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1396a(n)(3)(B)) is amended—

8 (1) by inserting “(i)” after “(B)”; and

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

11 “(ii) the amount of medicare cost-sharing that
12 is uncollectible from the beneficiary because of
13 clause (i) and that is not paid by any other indi-
14 vidual or entity shall be deemed to be bad debt for
15 purposes of title XVIII; and”.

16 (b) **RECOGNITION OF 100 PERCENT OF BAD**
17 **DEBT.**—

18 (1) **NONAPPLICATION OF REDUCTION.**—Section
19 1861(v)(1)(T) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
20 1395x(v)(1)(T)) is amended by inserting “(other
21 than any amount deemed to be bad debt under sec-
22 tion 1902(n)(3)(B)(ii))” after “amounts under this
23 title”.

24 (2) **RECOGNITION WITH RESPECT TO CER-**
25 **TIFIED NURSE ANESTHETISTS, NURSE PRACTI-**
26 **TIONERS, AND CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALISTS.**—Sec-

1 tion 1833 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
2 1395l) is amended—

3 (A) in subsection (l)(5)(B), by striking
4 “No hospital” and inserting “Except as pro-
5 vided in section 1902(n)(3)(B)(ii), no hospital”;
6 and

7 (B) in subsection (r)(2), by striking “No
8 hospital” and inserting “Except as provided in
9 section 1902(n)(3)(B)(ii), no hospital”.

10 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 this section shall apply to items and services furnished on
12 or after the date of enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 3. INCREASED EFFORT TO PROVIDE MEDICARE BENE-**
14 **FICIARIES WITH MEDICARE COST-SHARING**
15 **UNDER THE MEDICAID PROGRAM.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a) of the Social Se-
17 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (64), by striking “and” at the
19 end;

20 (2) in paragraph (65), by striking the period
21 and inserting “; and”; and

22 (3) by inserting after paragraph (65) the fol-
23 lowing new paragraph:

24 “(66) provide for the determination of eligibility
25 for medicare cost-sharing (as defined in section

1 1905(p)(3)) for individuals described in paragraph
2 (10)(E) and, if eligible for such medicare cost-shar-
3 ing, for the enrollment of such individuals at any
4 hospital, clinic, or similar entity at which State or
5 local agency personnel are stationed for the purpose
6 of determining the eligibility of individuals for med-
7 ical assistance under the State plan or providing
8 outreach services to eligible or potentially eligible in-
9 dividuals.”.

10 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of
12 this Act.

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