

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1999

To amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as added by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to provide for negotiation of fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 9, 2003

Mr. DASCHLE (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KOHL, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as added by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to provide for negotiation of fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs.

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 Prescription
5 Drug Price Reduction Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NEGOTIATING FAIR PRICES FOR MEDICARE PRE-**
2 **SCRIPTION DRUGS.**

3 Section 1860D–11 of the Social Security Act, as
4 added by section 101(a) of the Medicare Prescription
5 Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, is
6 amended by striking subsection (i) (relating to noninter-
7 ference) and by inserting the following:

8 “(i) **AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE PRICES WITH MAN-**
9 **UFACTURERS.**—In order to ensure that beneficiaries en-
10 rolled under prescription drug plans and MA–PD plans
11 pay the lowest possible price, the Secretary shall have au-
12 thority similar to that of other Federal entities that pur-
13 chase prescription drugs in bulk to negotiate contracts
14 with manufacturers of covered part D drugs, consistent
15 with the requirements and in furtherance of the goals of
16 providing quality care and containing costs under this
17 part.”.

○