

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2618

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend medicare cost-sharing for the medicare part B premium for qualifying individuals through September 2005.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 7, 2004

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. BINGAMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend medicare cost-sharing for the medicare part B premium for qualifying individuals through September 2005.

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. EXTENSION OF MEDICARE COST-SHARING FOR**
4 **THE MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM FOR**
5 **QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a)(10)(E)(iv) of the
7 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(E)(iv)) is
8 amended by striking “2004” and inserting “2005”.

1 (b) TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR ALLOCATION.—
 2 Section 1933(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 3 1396u–3(g)) is amended to read as follows:

4 “(g) SPECIAL RULES.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to each period
 6 described in paragraph (2), a State shall select
 7 qualifying individuals, subject to paragraph (3), and
 8 provide such individuals with assistance, in accord-
 9 ance with the provisions of this section as in effect
 10 with respect to calendar year 2003, except that for
 11 such purpose—

12 “(A) references in the preceding sub-
 13 sections of this section to a year, whether fiscal
 14 or calendar, shall be deemed to be references to
 15 such period; and

16 “(B) the total allocation amount under
 17 subsection (c) for such period shall be the
 18 amount described in paragraph (2) for that pe-
 19 riod.

20 “(2) PERIODS AND TOTAL ALLOCATION
 21 AMOUNTS DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this sub-
 22 section—

23 “(A) for the period that begins on January
 24 1, 2004, and ends on September 30, 2004, the
 25 total allocation amount is \$300,000,000;

1 “(B) for the period that begins on October
2 1, 2004, and ends on December 31, 2004, the
3 total allocation amount is \$100,000,000; and

4 “(C) for the period that begins on January
5 1, 2005, and ends on September 30, 2005, the
6 total allocation amount is \$300,000,000.

7 “(3) RULES FOR PERIODS THAT BEGIN AFTER
8 JANUARY 1.—For any specific period described in
9 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2), the following
10 applies:

11 “(A) The specific period shall be treated as
12 a continuation of the immediately preceding pe-
13 riod in that calendar year for purposes of apply-
14 ing subsection (b)(2) and qualifying individuals
15 who received assistance in the last month of
16 such immediately preceding period shall be
17 deemed to be selected for the specific period
18 (without the need to complete an application for
19 assistance for such period).

20 “(B) The limit to be applied under sub-
21 section (b)(3) for the specific period shall be the
22 same as the limit applied under such subsection
23 for the immediately preceding period.

24 “(C) The ratio to be applied under sub-
25 section (c)(2) for the specific period shall be the

- 1 same as the ratio applied under such subsection
- 2 for the immediately preceding period.”.

