

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

# S. 4083

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require reporting of quality measures by hospitals in order to reduce medication errors.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 6, 2006

Mr. LUGAR (for himself and Mr. BAYH) 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 require reporting of quality measures by hospitals in order to reduce medication errors.

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 “Hospital Quality Re-  
5       porting Improvement Act of 2006”.

6       **SEC. 2. REPORTING OF QUALITY MEASURES BY HOSPITALS**

7                       **IN ORDER TO REDUCE MEDICATION ERRORS.**

8       Section 1886(b)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42  
9       U.S.C. 1395ww(b)(3)(B)), as amended by section 5001(a)

1 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–  
2 171), is amended—

3 (1) by moving clause (viii) (including subclauses  
4 (I) through (VII) of such clause) 6 ems to the left;  
5 and

6 (2) in clause (viii)—

7 (A) by redesignating subclauses (VI) and  
8 (VII) as subclauses (VII) and (VIII), respec-  
9 tively; and

10 (B) by inserting after subclause (V) the  
11 following new subclause:

12 “(VI) Effective for payments beginning with fiscal  
13 year 2009, in expanding the number of measures under  
14 subclause (III), the Secretary shall adopt consensus-based  
15 measures designed to reduce the likelihood of hospital  
16 medication errors. The Secretary shall adopt measures  
17 under this subclause that have been approved by national  
18 organizations with expertise in health care quality. In  
19 adopting the measures, the Secretary—

20 “(aa) shall recognize a range of measures avail-  
21 able to hospitals, including those that do not require  
22 a significant short-term investment in technology-  
23 based systems; and

24 “(bb) may take the cost of complying with  
25 those measures into account for hospitals located in

- 1 rural areas and small community hospitals (as deter-
- 2 mined by the Secretary).”.

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