

110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6158

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a geographic adjustment in the Medicare cap on payment for hospice care and to require hospice programs to report comprehensive data on hospice care.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a geographic adjustment in the Medicare cap on payment for hospice care and to require hospice programs to report comprehensive data on hospice care.

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. MEDICARE HOSPICE PAYMENTS AND DATA RE-**
4 **PORTING.**

5 (a) GEOGRAPHIC ADJUSTMENT IN THE MEDICARE
6 HOSPICE PAYMENT CAP.—Paragraph (2)(B) of section
7 1814(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(i))
8 is amended by adding at the end the following: “For ac-

1 counting years beginning on or after October 1, 2008, the
2 Secretary shall adjust the ‘cap amount’ using the same
3 geographic index, in the same manner, as is used to deter-
4 mine payment rates for hospice care, except that in apply-
5 ing the work geographic index, the Secretary shall increase
6 the index to 1.00 for any locality for which such index
7 is less than 1.00.”.

8 (b) SUBMISSION OF COMPREHENSIVE DATA ON HOS-
9 PICE CARE.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of such sec-
11 tion is amended by adding at the end the following:
12 “The Secretary shall expand such data to include
13 comprehensive data that reflect the number, type,
14 and length of services provided to beneficiaries by all
15 members of the hospice interdisciplinary group and
16 by all hospice employees and volunteers, taking into
17 account the unique features of the hospice benefit,
18 including the focus on palliative care and the inter-
19 disciplinary team approach to providing care to
20 beneficiaries and their families.”.

21 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary of
22 Health and Human Services may not require the
23 submission by hospice programs of comprehensive
24 data under the amendment made by paragraph (1)
25 before January 1, 2009.

1 (3) RELATION TO CHANGE REQUEST 5567.—The
2 reporting of comprehensive data under such amend-
3 ment shall supercede any requirement for the report-
4 ing of an expanded level of claims data under
5 Change Request 5567.

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