

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1595

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide flexibility in the manner in which beds are counted for purposes of determining whether a hospital may be designated as a critical access hospital under the Medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 12, 2007

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

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide flexibility in the manner in which beds are counted for purposes of determining whether a hospital may be designated as a critical access hospital under the Medicare 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 “Critical Access Hos-
5 pital Flexibility Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. FLEXIBILITY IN THE MANNER IN WHICH BEDS ARE**
2 **COUNTED FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING**
3 **WHETHER A HOSPITAL MAY BE DESIGNATED**
4 **AS A CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL UNDER**
5 **THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1820(c)(2)(B) of the So-
7 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-4(c)(2)(B)) is amend-
8 ed—

9 (1) in clause (iii), by inserting “(or 20, as de-
10 termined on an annual, average basis)” after “25”;
11 and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following flush
13 sentence:

14 “In determining the number of beds for purposes of
15 clause (iii), only beds that are occupied shall be
16 counted.”.

17 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
18 this section take effect on January 1, 2008.

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