

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4700

To provide for transparency in health care pricing, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2010

Mr. KAGEN (for himself, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. PERRIELLO, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. COHEN, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. WELCH, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. HODES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for transparency in health care pricing, and for other purposes.

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 “Transparency in All
5 Health Care Pricing Act of 2010”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANSPARENCY IN ALL HEALTH CARE PRICING.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any and all individuals or busi-
3 ness entities, including hospitals, physicians, nurses, phar-
4 macies, pharmaceutical manufacturers, dentists, and the
5 insurance entities described in subsection (d), and any
6 other health care related providers or issuers that offer
7 or furnish health care related items, products, services, or
8 procedures (as defined by the Secretary of Health and
9 Human Services) for sale to the public shall publicly dis-
10 close, on a continuous basis, all prices for such items,
11 products, services, or procedures in accordance with this
12 section.

13 (b) MANNER OF DISCLOSURE.—The disclosure re-
14 quired under subsection (a) shall—

15 (1) be made in an open and conspicuous man-
16 ner;

17 (2) be made available at the point of purchase,
18 in print, and on the Internet; and

19 (3) include all wholesale, retail, subsidized, dis-
20 counted, or other such prices the individuals or busi-
21 ness entities described in such subsection accept as
22 payment in full for items, products, services, or pro-
23 cedures such individuals or business entities furnish
24 to individual consumers.

25 (c) PENALTIES.—The Secretary of Health and
26 Human Services may investigate any and all individuals

1 or business entities that fail to comply with the require-
2 ments of this section and may impose on such individuals
3 or business entities civil fines, or other civil penalties, as
4 determined appropriate by the Secretary.

5 (d) INSURANCE ENTITY DESCRIBED.—For purposes
6 of this section, an insurance entity includes a health insur-
7 ance issuer with respect to the offering of health insurance
8 coverage, including in the individual market and small and
9 large group market (as such terms are defined in section
10 2791 of the Public Health Service Act), a plan sponsor
11 with respect to the offering of a group health plan (as
12 defined in such section 2791), and entities responsible for
13 the administration of governmental health plans (includ-
14 ing the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services with re-
15 spect to the Medicare program under title XVIII of the
16 Social Security Act, State agencies responsible for admin-
17 istration of State plans under the Medicaid program under
18 title XIX of such Act, or State child assistance plans
19 under the State Children’s Health Insurance Program
20 under title XXI of such Act, and the Office of Personnel
21 Management with respect to the Federal Employees
22 Health Benefits Program under chapter 89 of title 5,
23 United States Code).

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