

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3018

To provide for a safe harbor period for the transition from the ICD–9  
to the ICD–10 standard for health care claims.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2015

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. PRICE of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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

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## A BILL

To provide for a safe harbor period for the transition from  
the ICD–9 to the ICD–10 standard for health care claims.

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 “Coding Flexibility in  
5 Healthcare Act of 2015” or the “Code-FLEX Act of  
6 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTINUING USE OF ICD-9-CM CODES DURING A**  
2 **TRANSITION PERIOD.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
4 Human Services, in implementing the transition to ICD-  
5 10 code sets pursuant to section 1173(c) of the Social Se-  
6 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d-2(c)) and consistent with  
7 section 212 of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of  
8 2014, shall provide for a transition period, in accordance  
9 with subsection (b), during which health care claims (and  
10 related standard transactions) otherwise payable (or proc-  
11 essed) by public and private payors shall continue to be  
12 processed and paid, as applicable, if submitted with ICD-  
13 9 codes.

14 (b) DURATION OF TRANSITION PERIOD.—The transi-  
15 tion period under subsection (a) shall begin on the first  
16 day in which the Secretary adopts such ICD-10 code sets  
17 as the standard for codes sets under section 1173(c) of  
18 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320d-2(c)) and end  
19 180 days after such date.

20 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
21 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
22 to Congress a report assessing the impact of such ICD-  
23 10 code sets on health care providers participating under  
24 the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Se-  
25 curity Act, individuals entitled to benefits under part A

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- 1 of such title or enrolled under part B of such title, and
- 2 other impacted stakeholders.

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