

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1873

To provide outreach and reporting on comprehensive Alzheimer's disease care planning services furnished under the Medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 2019

Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. WATERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 outreach and reporting on comprehensive Alzheimer's disease care planning services furnished 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 “Improving HOPE for
5 Alzheimer’s”.

1 **SEC. 2. CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES**
2 **PROVIDER OUTREACH AND REPORTING ON**
3 **COMPREHENSIVE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**
4 **CARE PLANNING SERVICES.**

5 (a) **OUTREACH.**—The Secretary of Health and
6 Human Services (in this section referred to as the “Sec-
7 retary”) shall conduct outreach to physicians and appro-
8 priate non-physician practitioners participating under the
9 Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security
10 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) with respect to comprehen-
11 sive care planning services furnished to individuals with
12 Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias (in this section
13 referred to as “comprehensive Alzheimer’s disease care
14 planning services”). Such outreach shall include a com-
15 prehensive, one-time education initiative to inform such
16 physicians and practitioners of the addition of such serv-
17 ices as a covered benefit under the Medicare program, in-
18 cluding materials on appropriate diagnostic evaluations
19 and explanations of the requirements for eligibility for
20 such services.

21 (b) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—

22 (1) **PROVIDER OUTREACH.**—Not later than one
23 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the
24 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Ways
25 and Means and the Committee on Energy and Com-
26 merce of the House of Representatives and the Com-

1 mittee on Finance of the Senate a report on the out-
2 reach conducted under subsection (a). Such report
3 shall include a description of the methods used for
4 such outreach.

5 (2) UTILIZATION RATES.—Not later than 18
6 months after such date of enactment and annually
7 thereafter for the succeeding five years, the Sec-
8 retary shall submit to the Committee on Ways and
9 Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce
10 of the House of Representatives and the Committee
11 on Finance of the Senate a report on the number of
12 Medicare beneficiaries who, during the preceding
13 year, were furnished comprehensive Alzheimer’s dis-
14 ease care planning services for which payment was
15 made under title XVIII of the Social Security Act
16 (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.). Each such report shall in-
17 clude information on any barriers Medicare bene-
18 ficiaries face to access such services and the rec-
19 ommendations of the Secretary to eliminate any
20 such barriers.

21 (3) COPY OF EACH REPORT.—On the same day
22 that a report is submitted under paragraph (1) or
23 (2), the Secretary shall transmit a copy of such re-
24 port to the Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Re-
25 search, Care, and Services established under section

- 1 2(e) of the National Alzheimer's Project Act (42
- 2 U.S.C. 11225(e); Public Law 111-375).

