

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4830

To provide payment for patient navigator services under title XIX of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 23, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER (for himself and Mr. CARTER of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To provide payment for patient navigator services under title XIX of the Social Security Act, 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 “Patient Navigation As-

5 sistance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR PATIENT NAVIGATOR**
7 **SERVICES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a) of the Social Se-

9 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (82), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (2) in paragraph (83), by striking at the end
4 the period and inserting “; and”; and

5 (3) by inserting after paragraph (83) the fol-
6 lowing new paragraph:

7 “(84) provide that the State shall reimburse an
8 eligible entity (as defined in subsection (nn)(1)) for
9 any patient navigator service (as defined in sub-
10 section (nn)(3)) that is provided—

11 “(A) to an individual who is eligible for
12 medical assistance under the State plan; and

13 “(B) by a patient navigator (as defined in
14 subsection (nn)(2)) through the eligible entity.”;

15 and

16 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-
17 section:

18 “(nn) PATIENT NAVIGATOR SERVICES DEFINI-
19 TIONS.—For purposes of this section:

20 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
21 tity’ means an entity that—

22 “(A) is an eligible entity (as defined in
23 subsection (l)(1) of section 340A of the Public
24 Health Service Act); and

1 “(B) complies with the following require-
2 ments of such section (insofar as they apply to
3 a grant recipient under such section):

4 “(i) Subsection (b) (relating to patient
5 navigator duties and community knowl-
6 edge).

7 “(ii) Subsection (c) (relating to prohi-
8 bitions).

9 “(iii) Subsection (e) (relating to appli-
10 cations).

11 “(iv) Subsection (j)(3) (relating to re-
12 ports).

13 “(2) PATIENT NAVIGATOR.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘patient
15 navigator’ has the meaning given such term in
16 section 340A(l)(3) of the Public Health Service
17 Act.

18 “(B) CONSULTATION WITH ADVISORY COM-
19 MITTEE.—

20 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
21 shall consult with the patient navigation
22 advisory committee to the extent necessary
23 to further clarify the definition of the term
24 ‘patient navigator’ for purposes of this sec-
25 tion, including establishing requirements to

1 ensure adequate training for such naviga-
2 tors, such as developing a training cur-
3 riculum and determining required quali-
4 fications and maintenance of qualifications.

5 “(ii) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary
6 shall convene a patient navigation advisory
7 committee. The members of such com-
8 mittee shall include—

9 “(I) representatives from relevant
10 Federal departments and agencies, in-
11 cluding the National Institutes of
12 Health, the Centers for Disease Con-
13 trol and Prevention, the Health Re-
14 sources and Services Administration,
15 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
16 Services, the Indian Health Service,
17 and the Office of Rural Health Policy
18 of the Department of Health and
19 Human Services; and

20 “(II) physicians, nurses, stake-
21 holder groups, and other individuals
22 and representatives of public and pri-
23 vate organizations with expertise in
24 patient navigation.

1 “(3) PATIENT NAVIGATOR SERVICES.—The
2 term ‘patient navigator service’ means a service that
3 is a duty specified under paragraphs (1) through (6)
4 of subsection (b) of section 340A of the Public
5 Health Service Act and that is provided by a patient
6 navigator through an eligible entity.”.

7 (b) TREATMENT AS MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PUR-
8 POSES OF FMAP.—Section 1905(a) of the Social Security
9 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)) is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (28), by striking “and” at the
11 end;

12 (2) by redesignating paragraph (29) as para-
13 graph (30); and

14 (3) by inserting after paragraph (28) the fol-
15 lowing new paragraph:

16 “(29) patient navigator services (as defined in
17 section 1902(nn)(3)) that are provided in a manner
18 that meets the requirements of section 1902(a)(84);
19 and”.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
22 the amendments made by this section shall apply to
23 patient navigator services provided after the first
24 day of the first calendar year that begins after the
25 date of enactment of this Act.

1 (2) EXCEPTION FOR STATE LEGISLATION.—In
2 the case of a State plan under title XIX of the So-
3 cial Security Act, which the Secretary of Health and
4 Human Services determines requires State legisla-
5 tion in order for the respective plan to meet any re-
6 quirement imposed by amendments made by this
7 Act, the respective plan shall not be regarded as fail-
8 ing to comply with the requirements of such title
9 solely on the basis of its failure to meet such an ad-
10 ditional requirement before the first day of the first
11 calendar quarter beginning after the close of the
12 first regular session of the State legislature that be-
13 gins after the date of enactment of this Act. For
14 purposes of the previous sentence, in the case of a
15 State that has a 2-year legislative session, each year
16 of the session shall be considered to be a separate
17 regular session of the State legislature.

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