

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2574

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Mr. GARDNER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

---

## A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks.

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 “Promote Responsible  
5       Oversight and Targeted Employee background Check  
6       Transparency for Seniors Act” or the “PROTECTS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMITTING MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PRO-**  
2 **VIDERS TO ACCESS THE NATIONAL PRACTI-**  
3 **TIONER DATA BANK TO CONDUCT EMPLOYEE**  
4 **BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

5 Section 1921(b)(6) of the Social Security Act (42  
6 U.S.C. 1396r-2(b)(6)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “and other health care entities  
8 (as defined in section 431 of the Health Care Qual-  
9 ity Improvement Act of 1986)” and inserting “,  
10 other health care entities (as defined in section 431  
11 of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of  
12 1986), providers of services (as defined in section  
13 1861(u)), suppliers (as defined in section 1861(d)),  
14 and providers of items or services under a State plan  
15 under this title (or a waiver of such a plan)”; and

16 (2) by striking “such hospitals or other health  
17 care entities” and inserting “such hospitals, health  
18 care entities, providers, or suppliers”.

○