

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3237

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the annual wellness visit under the Medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 28, 2020

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

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the annual wellness visit 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 “Wellness and Edu-
5 cation for Longer Lives for Seniors Act of 2020” or the
6 “WELL Seniors Act of 2020”.

7 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MEDICARE ANNUAL**
8 **WELLNESS VISIT.**

9 (a) **ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS.—**

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(hhh)(2) of the
2 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hhh)(2)) is
3 amended—

4 (A) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and
5 nutrition” and inserting “nutrition, mobility,
6 food security, housing security, transportation
7 access, social support, and other social deter-
8 minants of health as determined by the Sec-
9 retary”;

10 (B) by moving subparagraphs (G) and (H)
11 two ems to the left;

12 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (I) as
13 subparagraph (J); and

14 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (H)
15 the following new subparagraph:

16 “(I) Screening for balance to identify risk for
17 falls and referral for treatment as appropriate.”.

18 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
19 by paragraph (1) shall apply to items and services
20 furnished on or after January 1, 2021.

21 (b) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.—Section 1833 of the So-
22 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l) is amended by adding
23 at the end the following new subsection:

1 “(cc) INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR ANNUAL
2 WELLNESS VISITS THAT INCLUDE CERTAIN ELE-
3 MENTS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of personalized
5 prevention plan services (as defined in paragraph (1)
6 of section 1861(hhh)) that are furnished on or after
7 January 1, 2021, and that include the element de-
8 scribed in subparagraph (F) of paragraph (2) of
9 such section 1861(hhh) and at least two additional
10 elements described in subparagraphs (A) through
11 (E) and (G) through (J) of such paragraph (2), in
12 addition to the amount of payment that would other-
13 wise be made for such personalized prevention plan
14 services under this part, there also shall be paid an
15 amount equal to 10 percent of the payment amount
16 for the service under this part.

17 “(2) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PAY-
18 MENTS.—The amount of the additional payment for
19 a service under this subsection and subsection (m)
20 shall be determined without regard to any additional
21 payment for the service under subsection (m) and
22 this subsection, respectively. The amount of the ad-
23 ditional payment for a service under this subsection
24 and subsection (z) shall be determined without re-

1 gard to any additional payment for the service under
2 subsection (z) and this subsection, respectively.”.

3 (c) EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—The Secretary of
4 Health and Human Services shall conduct education and
5 outreach activities regarding the coverage of annual
6 wellness visits under the Medicare program, including
7 changes to such visits under the amendments made by
8 subsections (a) and (b).

○