

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1924

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a new criterion for the nonapplication of site-neutral payments to long-term care hospitals under the Medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2025

Mr. HERN of Oklahoma (for himself, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. TENNEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a new criterion for the nonapplication of site-neutral payments to long-term care hospitals 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 “Securing Access to
5 Care for Seniors in Critical Condition Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHING A NEW CRITERION FOR THE NON-**
 2 **APPLICATION OF SITE-NEUTRAL PAYMENTS**
 3 **TO LONG-TERM CARE HOSPITALS UNDER**
 4 **THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

5 Section 1886(m)(6)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
 6 U.S.C. 1395ww(m)(6)(A)) is amended—

7 (1) in clause (ii)(I), by striking “or the venti-
 8 lator criterion under clause (iv)” and inserting “, the
 9 ventilator criterion under clause (iv), or the high
 10 acuity criterion described in clause (v)”;

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new
 12 clause:

13 “(v) HIGH ACUITY CRITERION.—The
 14 criterion specified in this clause (in this
 15 paragraph referred to as the ‘high acuity
 16 criterion’) for a discharge from a long-term
 17 care hospital in a fiscal year is that—

18 “(I) the discharge was assigned
 19 to a Medicare-Severity-Long-Term-
 20 Care-Diagnosis-Related-Group (MS-
 21 LTC-DRG) with a relative weight for
 22 such fiscal year that was equal to or
 23 greater than 0.8; and

24 “(II) the discharge occurred on
 25 or after October 1, 2026.”.