

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1915

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of paramedic intercept services under the Medicare Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2009

Ms. DELAURO (for herself and Mr. PLATTS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of paramedic intercept services 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 “Medicare Paramedic
5 Intercept Services Coverage Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDED COVERAGE OF PARAMEDIC INTERCEPT**
2 **SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4531(c) of the Balanced
4 Budget Act of 1997 (111 Stat. 452; 42 U.S.C. 1395x
5 note) is amended to read as follows:

6 “(c) PAYMENT FOR PARAMEDIC INTERCEPT SERVICE
7 PROVIDERS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating regula-
9 tions to carry out section 1861(s)(7) of the Social
10 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(7)) with respect to
11 the coverage of ambulance services, the Secretary of
12 Health and Human Services shall include coverage
13 of advanced life support intercept services (in this
14 subsection referred to as ‘ALS intercept services’).

15 “(2) CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE.—For the pur-
16 poses of this subsection, ALS intercept services con-
17 sist of a qualified paramedic providing ALS level
18 services in connection with the transport of a patient
19 by an ambulance qualified to provide only a basic
20 life support level of services if the following condi-
21 tions are met:

22 “(A) The entity providing the ambulance
23 transportation is a public, non-profit, or volun-
24 teer organization which—

1 “(i) is certified as qualified to provide
2 ambulance services under title XVIII of
3 the Social Security Act; and

4 “(ii) provides only basic life support
5 services at the time of the intercept.

6 “(B) The paramedic providing such serv-
7 ices is not employed or compensated by the en-
8 tity providing the ambulance transportation and
9 the entity employing or compensating such
10 paramedic is not related to the entity providing
11 the ambulance transportation.

12 “(C) The ALS intercept services are re-
13 quested by the entity providing the ambulance
14 transportation or are dispatched to coordinate
15 with such entity and such services are medically
16 necessary based on the medical condition for
17 which they are dispatched.

18 “(D) The entity that is employing or com-
19 pensating that paramedic—

20 “(i) is certified as qualified to provide
21 such services under such title; and

22 “(ii) bills all individuals (or their in-
23 surers) who receive ALS intercept services
24 from the entity, regardless of whether such

1 individuals are beneficiaries under such
2 title.

3 “(E) The paramedic providing the inter-
4 cept services accompanies and provides an ALS
5 assessment or ALS intervention to the patient
6 during the transport.”.

7 (b) PAYMENTS NOT COUNTED IN COMPUTING AMBU-
8 LANCE FEE SCHEDULE AMOUNTS.—The Secretary of
9 Health and Human Services shall not take into account
10 any payments made pursuant to the amendment made by
11 subsection (a) in determining payment amounts under the
12 ambulance fee schedule under section 1834(l) of the Social
13 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)), or the aggregate
14 amount of payments under such section, for any year.

15 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
16 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to ambulance serv-
17 ices provided on or after January 1, 2010.

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