

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3505

To require private health insurers to rapidly cover preventive services and vaccines related to the coronavirus.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2020

Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. DAINES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To require private health insurers to rapidly cover preventive services and vaccines related to the coronavirus.

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 “Rapid Coverage for
5 Coronavirus Vaccines Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RAPID COVERAGE OF PREVENTIVE SERVICES AND**
7 **VACCINES FOR CORONAVIRUS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding 2713(b) of the
9 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–13), the Sec-
10 retary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of

1 Labor, and the Secretary of the Treasury shall require
2 group health plans and health insurance issuers offering
3 group or individual health insurance to cover any quali-
4 fying coronavirus preventive service, pursuant to section
5 2713(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
6 300gg-13(a)). The requirement described in this sub-
7 section shall take effective with respect to a qualifying
8 coronavirus prevention service on the specified date de-
9 scribed in subsection (b)(2).

10 (b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

11 (1) QUALIFYING CORONAVIRUS PREVENTIVE
12 SERVICE.—The term “qualifying coronavirus preven-
13 tive service” means an item, service, or immuniza-
14 tion that is intended to prevent or mitigate coronavi-
15 rus disease 2019 and that is—

16 (A) an evidence-based item or service that
17 has in effect a rating of “A” or “B” in the cur-
18 rent recommendations of the United States Pre-
19 ventive Services Task Force; or

20 (B) an immunization that has in effect a
21 recommendation from the Advisory Committee
22 on Immunization Practices of the Centers for
23 Disease Control and Prevention with respect to
24 the individual involved.

1 (2) SPECIFIED DATE.—The term “specified
2 date” means—

3 (A) with respect to a qualifying coronavi-
4 rus preventive service described in paragraph
5 (1)(A), the date that is 15 business days after
6 the date on which a rating with respect to such
7 item or service is received as described in such
8 paragraph; or

9 (B) with respect to a qualifying coronavi-
10 rus preventive service described in paragraph
11 (1)(B), the date that is 15 business days after
12 the date on which a recommendation is made
13 relating to the immunization as described in
14 such paragraph.

15 (3) HEALTH INSURANCE TERMS.—In this sec-
16 tion, the terms “group health plan”, “health insur-
17 ance issuer”, “group health insurance coverage”,
18 and “individual health insurance coverage” have the
19 meanings given such terms in section 2791 of the
20 Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–91).

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