

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 586

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 27, 2019

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. ROUNDS) 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 remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services.

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 “Critical Access Hos-
5 pital Relief Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVING MEDICARE 96-HOUR PHYSICIAN CER-**
2 **TIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR INPATIENT**
3 **CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL SERVICES.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1814(a) of the Social Se-
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (6), by adding “and” at the
7 end;

8 (2) in paragraph (7), at the end of subpara-
9 graph (E), by striking “and” and inserting a period;
10 and

11 (3) by striking paragraph (8).

12 (b) **APPLICATION.**—The amendments made by sub-
13 section (a) shall apply with respect to items and services
14 furnished on or after January 1, 2020.

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