

**Calendar No. 59**114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 984**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

APRIL 16, 2015

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. KING, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KIRK) introduced the following bill; which was read the first time

APRIL 20, 2015

Read the second time and placed on the calendar

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**A BILL**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Steve Gleason Act of  
3 2015”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING MEDICARE BENEFICIARY ACCESS TO**  
5 **EYE TRACKING ACCESSORIES FOR SPEECH**  
6 **GENERATING DEVICES.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1861(n) of the Social Se-  
8 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended by inserting  
9 “and eye tracking and gaze interaction accessories for  
10 speech generating devices furnished to individuals with a  
11 demonstrated medical need for such accessories” after  
12 “appropriate organizations”.

13 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
14 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to devices furnished  
15 on or after January 1, 2016.

16 **SEC. 3. REMOVING THE RENTAL CAP FOR DURABLE MED-**  
17 **ICAL EQUIPMENT UNDER MEDICARE WITH**  
18 **RESPECT TO SPEECH GENERATING DEVICES.**

19 Section 1834(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42  
20 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

21 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end;

22 (2) in clause (iii), by adding “or” at the end;

23 and

24 (3) by inserting after clause (iii) the following

25 new clause:

1                   “(iv) in the case of devices furnished  
2                   on or after October 1, 2015, and before  
3                   October 1, 2018, which serves as a speech  
4                   generating device or which is an accessory  
5                   that is needed for the individual to effec-  
6                   tively utilize such a device,”.

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