

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2506

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to delay the authority to terminate Medicare Advantage contracts for MA plans failing to achieve minimum quality ratings.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 21, 2015

Mr. BUCHANAN (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. RANGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 delay the authority to terminate Medicare Advantage contracts for MA plans failing to achieve minimum quality ratings.

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 “Seniors’ Health Care
5 Plan Protection Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. DELAY IN AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE CONTRACTS**
2 **FOR MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLANS FAILING**
3 **TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM QUALITY RATINGS.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Consistent with the studies provided
5 under the IMPACT Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–185),
6 it is the intent of Congress—

7 (1) to continue to study and request input on
8 the effects of socioeconomic status and dual-eligible
9 populations on the Medicare Advantage STARS rat-
10 ing system before reforming such system; and

11 (2) pending the results of such studies and
12 input, to provide for a temporary delay in authority
13 of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
14 (CMS) to terminate Medicare Advantage plan con-
15 tracts solely on the basis of performance of plans
16 under the STARS rating system.

17 (b) DELAY IN MA CONTRACT TERMINATION AU-
18 THORITY FOR PLANS FAILING TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM
19 QUALITY RATINGS.—Section 1857(h) of the Social Secu-
20 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–27(h)) is amended by adding
21 at the end the following new paragraph:

22 “(3) DELAY IN CONTRACT TERMINATION AU-
23 THORITY FOR PLANS FAILING TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM
24 QUALITY RATING.—The Secretary may not termi-
25 nate a contract under this section with respect to
26 the offering of an MA plan by a Medicare Advantage

1 organization solely because the MA plan has failed
2 to achieve a minimum quality rating under the 5-
3 star rating system established under section 1853(o)
4 during the period beginning on the date of the en-
5 actment of this paragraph and through the end of
6 plan year 2018.”.

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