

**Amendment to the Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to H.Con.Res. 14**  
**Offered by Rep. Jimmy Panetta**

**The Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Amendment**

This amendment would provide that all payments under the Medicare physician fee schedule are updated annually at a rate equal to that of the Medicare Economic Index (MEI).

**AMENDMENT**

**OFFERED BY MR. PANETTA**

Add at the appropriate place the following:

1 **SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. MODIFYING UPDATE TO THE CONVERSION FAC-**  
2 **TOR UNDER THE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE**  
3 **UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

4 Section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
5 1395w-4(d)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (1)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

8 (i) in the first sentence, by striking  
9 “and ending with 2025”; and

10 (ii) by striking the second sentence;

11 and

12 (B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “(or,  
13 beginning with 2026, applicable conversion fac-  
14 tor)”;

15 (2) in paragraph (19)—

16 (A) in the header, by striking “2025” and  
17 inserting “2024”; and

18 (B) by striking “through 2025” and in-  
19 serting “through 2024”; and

1           (3) by amending paragraph (20) to read as fol-  
2       lows:

3           “(20) UPDATE FOR 2025 AND SUBSEQUENT  
4       YEARS.—The update to the single conversion factor  
5       established in paragraph (1)(A) for 2025 and each  
6       subsequent year is equal to the Secretary’s estimate  
7       of the percentage increase in the MEI (as defined in  
8       section 1842(i)(3)) for the year.”.

