

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1479

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to apply budget neutrality on a State-specific basis in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor for non-rural areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2015

Mr. BRADY of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to apply budget neutrality on a State-specific basis in the calculation of the Medicare hospital wage index floor for non-rural areas.

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 “Repeal of the
5 Obamacare Bay State Boondoogle Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPLYING BUDGET NEUTRALITY ON A STATE-SPE-**
2 **CIFIC BASIS IN THE CALCULATION OF THE**
3 **MEDICARE HOSPITAL WAGE INDEX FLOOR**
4 **FOR NON-RURAL AREAS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the So-
6 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)) is amend-
7 ed by adding at the end the following new clause:

8 “(iv) APPLICATION OF BUDGET NEU-
9 TRALITY RELATING TO FLOOR ON WAGE
10 AREA INDEX IN NON-RURAL AREAS.—

11 “(I) APPLICATION ON A STATE-
12 SPECIFIC BASIS.—In the case of dis-
13 charges occurring on or after April 1,
14 2015, for purposes of applying section
15 4410(b) of the Balanced Budget Act
16 of 1997, the Secretary shall admin-
17 ister such section 4410(b) and para-
18 graph (e) of section 412.64 of title 42,
19 Code of Federal Regulations, as if
20 paragraph (e)(4)(ii) of such section
21 412.64, as in effect on the day before
22 the date of the enactment of this
23 clause, had never applied and by using
24 the methodology promulgated in the
25 Federal Register on August 19, 2008
26 (73 Fed. Reg. 48570) (applied as if

1 such methodology had been fully im-
2 plemented for fiscal year 2011 using a
3 100 percent State-specific adjustment
4 to the area wage index).

5 “(II) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
6 in subclause (I) shall be construed as
7 preventing the Secretary, for dis-
8 charges occurring on or after April 1,
9 2015, from modifying the regulations
10 under such section 412.64 to be con-
11 sistent with subclause (I) in carrying
12 out the budget neutrality require-
13 ments of such section 4410(b).”.

14 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TERMINATING APPLI-
15 CATION OF BUDGET NEUTRALITY ON A NATIONWIDE
16 BASIS.—Section 3141 of the Patient Protection and Af-
17 fordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww note) is amended
18 by inserting “and before April 1, 2015,” after “2010,”.

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