

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3657

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment for services of radiologist assistants under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 1, 2021

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. CURTIS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 provide for payment for services of radiologist assistants under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

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 “Medicare Access to
5 Radiology Care Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE PAYMENT FOR RADIOLOGIST ASSISTANT**
2 **SERVICES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1834 of the Social Secu-
4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m) is amended by adding at the
5 end the following new subsection:

6 “(z) PAYMENT FOR CERTAIN RADIOLOGIST ASSIST-
7 ANT SERVICES.—

8 “(1) PAYMENT.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of radiolo-
10 gist assistant services (as defined in subpara-
11 graph (B)) furnished on or after January 1,
12 2021, for which payment is made under the fee
13 schedules established under section 1848, the
14 amount of payment for such services shall equal
15 85 percent of the amount determined under
16 section 1848 for such services when furnished
17 by a radiologist.

18 “(B) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

19 “(i) RADIOLOGIST ASSISTANT SERV-
20 ICES.—The term ‘radiologist assistant
21 services’ means services furnished as an in-
22 cident to a radiologists’ professional serv-
23 ice—

24 “(I) performed by a radiologist
25 assistant (as defined in clause (ii))
26 under the supervision of a radiologist

1 as an employee of, a leased employee
2 of, or an independent contractor of
3 the supervising radiologist; and

4 “(II) which the radiologist assist-
5 ant is legally authorized to perform
6 under State law (or the State regu-
7 latory mechanism provided by State
8 law).

9 “(ii) RADIOLOGIST ASSISTANT.—The
10 term ‘radiologist assistant’ means a
11 radiographer who is certified by the Amer-
12 ican Registry of Radiologic Technologists
13 as a registered radiologist assistant or by
14 the Certification Board for Radiology
15 Practitioner Assistants as a radiology prac-
16 titioner assistant to perform radiologic pro-
17 cedures under the supervision of a radiolo-
18 gist.

19 “(2) PAYMENT IN FACILITY SETTINGS.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
21 provide for payment for radiologist assistant
22 services in a facility setting furnished on or
23 after January 1, 2022. Payment shall be made
24 to the supervising radiologist.

1 “(B) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The amount of
2 payment for radiologist assistant services fur-
3 nished in a facility setting shall be the amount
4 determined under paragraph (1).

5 “(C) FACILITY SETTING DEFINED.—In
6 this paragraph, the term ‘facility setting’
7 means—

8 “(i) a hospital or critical access hos-
9 pital;

10 “(ii) an ambulatory surgical center;
11 and

12 “(iii) such other providers of services
13 as the Secretary may specify.

14 “(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
15 this subsection shall be construed as affecting—

16 “(A) coverage of and payment for the tech-
17 nical component (including the technical compo-
18 nent of a global fee) with respect to imaging
19 services under this title as in effect before the
20 date of the enactment of this Act;

21 “(B) the amount of payment made for ra-
22 diologists’ services under this title when fur-
23 nished solely by a radiologist; or

24 “(C) the amount of payment made under
25 this title for services furnished by a hospital,

1 critical access hospital, ambulatory surgical cen-
2 ter or any other facility setting specified by the
3 Secretary under paragraph (2)(C)(iii), as the
4 case may be.”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT FOR PAYMENT TO
6 SUPERVISING RADIOLOGIST.—The first sentence of sec-
7 tion 1842(b)(6) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(b)(6)) is
8 amended—

9 (1) by striking “and” before “(J)”; and
10 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
11 following: “, and (K) in the case of radiologist as-
12 sistant services (as defined in section
13 1834(z)(1)(B)(i)), payment shall be made to the su-
14 pervising radiologist”.

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