

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7516

To amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with provision of purchased/referred care services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Ms. SCHRIER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, and Mr. ZINKE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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 the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to address liability for payment of charges or costs associated with provision of purchased/referred care services, 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 “Purchased and Re-
5 ferred Care Improvement Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHANGES TO LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT.**

2 Section 222 of the Indian Health Care Improvement
3 Act (25 U.S.C. 1621u) is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) by striking “A patient” and inserting
6 “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
7 patient”;

8 (B) by striking “contract health care” and
9 inserting “or has received purchased/referred
10 care”; and

11 (C) by inserting “or were” after “that
12 are”;

13 (2) in subsection (b)—

14 (A) by striking “contract care” each place
15 it appears and inserting “purchased/referred
16 care”;

17 (B) by striking “contract health care” and
18 inserting “purchased/referred care”;

19 (C) by inserting “, notwithstanding any
20 other provision of law,” after “by the Service
21 that”; and

22 (D) by inserting “to any provider, debt col-
23 lector, or any other person” after “is not lia-
24 ble”;

1 (3) in subsection (c), by inserting “, the debt
2 collector, or any other person, as applicable” after
3 “the provider”; and

4 (4) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(d) REIMBURSEMENT.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
7 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the
8 Service shall establish and implement procedures to
9 allow a patient that paid out-of-pocket for pur-
10 chased/referred care services authorized by the Serv-
11 ice under this Act to be reimbursed by the Service
12 for that payment not later than 30 days after the
13 patient submits documentation to the Service pursu-
14 ant to paragraph (2).

15 “(2) SUBMITTING DOCUMENTATION.—The
16 Service shall accept documentation from a patient
17 seeking reimbursement under paragraph (1) that
18 was submitted—

19 “(A) electronically; or

20 “(B) in-person at a Service facility.”.

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