

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8581

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2022

Ms. SEWELL (for herself and Mr. BUCHANAN) 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 ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

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 “Preserving Access to
5 Home Health Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENSURING STABILITY IN PAYMENTS TO HOME**
2 **HEALTH AGENCIES.**

3 (a) **LIMITATION ON PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY**
4 **ADJUSTMENTS.**—Section 1895(b)(3)(D) of the Social Se-
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395fff(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

6 (1) in each of clauses (ii) and (iii), by striking
7 “The Secretary shall” and inserting “Subject to
8 clause (iv), the Secretary shall”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new
10 clause:

11 “(iv) **SPECIAL RULES FOR DECREASES**
12 **IN PAYMENTS.**—

13 “(I) **POSTPONEMENT.**—No per-
14 manent decrease to the standard pro-
15 spective payment amount (or
16 amounts) for a year under clause (ii)
17 and no temporary decrease to the pay-
18 ment amount for a unit of home
19 health services for a year under clause
20 (iii) shall be made prior to 2026.

21 “(II) **SUNSET.**—Subject to sub-
22 clause (I), the Secretary shall ensure
23 that all necessary permanent or tem-
24 porary decreases described in sub-
25 clause (I) are made prior to 2032.”.

1 (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other
2 provision of law, the Secretary may implement the provi-
3 sions of, and the amendments made by, this section by
4 program instruction or otherwise.

○