

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 868

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title and waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals with Huntington’s disease.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 18, 2021

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. KING) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title and waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals with Huntington’s disease.

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 “Huntington’s Disease
5 Disability Insurance Access Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF WAITING PERIOD FOR SOCIAL SE-**
 2 **CURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS**
 3 **FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH HUNTINGTON'S DIS-**
 4 **EASE.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223(a)(1) of the Social
 6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(a)(1)) is amended, in the
 7 matter following subparagraph (E), by inserting “or Hun-
 8 tington’s disease” after “amyotrophic lateral sclerosis”.

9 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 10 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to applications for
 11 disability insurance benefits filed after the date of the en-
 12 actment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 3. WAIVER OF 24-MONTH WAITING PERIOD FOR COV-**
 14 **ERAGE UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM**
 15 **FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH HUNTINGTON'S DIS-**
 16 **EASE.**

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 226(h) of the Social Secu-
 18 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 426(h)) is amended, in the matter pre-
 19 ceding paragraph (1), by inserting “or Huntington’s dis-
 20 ease (HD)” after “amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)”.

21 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 22 subsection (a) shall apply to benefits under title XVIII of
 23 the Social Security Act with respect to items and services
 24 furnished in months beginning after the date of the enact-
 25 ment of this Act.