

104TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4191

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the effect on payments under Medicare where certain inpatient services are replaced by outpatient services.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 1996

Mr. STARK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on 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

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study of the effect on payments under Medicare where certain inpatient services are replaced by outpatient services.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SEC. 1. STUDY AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

4 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Health and Human  
5 Services shall conduct a study of coverage for outpatient  
6 services in lieu of inpatient services under the Medicare  
7 program. Such study shall include an analysis of—

1           (1) the cost of providing to a Medicare bene-  
2           ficiary outpatient drug benefits and coverage for  
3           supplies, appliances, equipment, laboratory tests and  
4           nursing services required for appropriate outpatient  
5           treatment in lieu of continued hospitalization;

6           (2) whether payments under part A of the Med-  
7           icare program may be reduced if a Medicare bene-  
8           ficiary is provided the outpatient services described  
9           in paragraph (1), including any duplicate payments  
10          made for a Medicare beneficiary who is transferred  
11          from a hospital to a nursing facility, intermediate  
12          care facility, or other post-hospital care facility;

13          (3) potential savings to the Medicare program  
14          if a Medicare beneficiary is provided the outpatient  
15          services described in paragraph (1), including sav-  
16          ings with respect to the decreased probability of  
17          nosocomial infections due to shortened inpatient  
18          stays; and

19          (4) how any such outpatient services should be  
20          reimbursed so as to ensure cost savings.

21          (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
22          of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
23          a report to the Congress on the study under subsection  
24          (a) and shall include in the report such recommendations  
25          with respect to coverage of outpatient services in lieu of

- 1 inpatient services under the Medicare program as the Sec-
- 2 retary deems appropriate.

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