

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 800

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the governing boards of Medicare national accrediting entities have public representation and have public meetings as a condition of recognizing their accreditation under the Medicare Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 1997

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

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the governing boards of Medicare national accrediting entities have public representation and have public meetings as a condition of recognizing their accreditation 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. REQUIREMENTS FOR GOVERNING BOARDS OF**  
4 **MEDICARE ACCREDITING ENTITIES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1865 of the Social Secu-  
6 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395bb) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “, subsection  
2 (f),” after “subsection (b)”;

3 (2) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “except as  
4 provided in subsection (f),” after “In addition,”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
6 section:

7 “(f) The previous provisions of this section shall not  
8 apply to accreditation of a hospital or other provider entity  
9 by any national accreditation body unless—

10 “(1) at least one-third of the membership of the  
11 governing board of the body is composed of individ-  
12 uals who are members of the public approved by the  
13 Secretary (no later than 60 days after submission)  
14 and who are not employed by (or otherwise under  
15 contract with) the body (or any entity accredited by  
16 the organization) or an immediate family member of  
17 an individual who is so employed or under contract  
18 with the body or such an entity; and

19 “(2) meetings of the governing board of the  
20 body are open to the public to the extent such meet-  
21 ings would be required to be open to the public  
22 under section 552b of title 5, United States Code,  
23 if the body were an agency for purposes of such sec-  
24 tion.”.

1           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 subsection (a) shall apply to the composition of the gov-  
3 erning board and meetings of such board as of January  
4 1, 1998, with respect to accreditations occurring on or  
5 after such date.

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