

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1854

To amend part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reimburse Medicare+Choice plans located in the same metropolitan statistical area the same payment rate.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 29, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS 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 part C of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reimburse Medicare+Choice plans located in the same metropolitan statistical area the same payment rate.

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. UNIFORM MEDICARE+CHOICE PAYMENT RATES**

4 **FOR ALL AREAS WITHIN A METROPOLITAN**
5 **STATISTICAL AREA.**

6 Section 1853(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1395w-23(d)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph
2 (3)” and inserting “paragraphs (3) and (4)”;

3 (2) in paragraph (3)(D), by inserting “and in
4 paragraph (4)” after “in subparagraph (C)”; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new
6 paragraph:

7 “(4) CONSOLIDATED TREATMENT OF AREAS
8 WITHIN A METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning
10 with 2004, all the portions of each metropolitan
11 statistical area (regardless of whether they are
12 located in one or more States) shall be treated
13 as a single Medicare+Choice payment area.

14 “(B) BUDGET NEUTRALITY ADJUST-
15 MENT.—The Secretary shall beginning with
16 2004 and annually thereafter adjust the pay-
17 ment rates otherwise established under this sec-
18 tion for Medicare+Choice payment areas in a
19 manner so that the aggregate of the payments
20 under this section in the State shall not exceed
21 the aggregate payments that would have been
22 made under this section for Medicare+Choice
23 payment areas in the State in the absence of
24 the change effected under subparagraph (A).”.

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