

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2008

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of paramedic intercept services under the Medicare Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2003

Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. PLATTS, and Ms. SLAUGHTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 provide for expanded coverage of paramedic intercept services 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 “Medicare Paramedic
5 Intercept Services Coverage Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANDED COVERAGE OF PARAMEDIC INTERCEPT**
2 **SERVICES UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4531(c) of the Balanced
4 Budget Act of 1997 is amended to read as follows:

5 “(c) PAYMENT FOR PARAMEDIC INTERCEPT SERVICE
6 PROVIDERS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In promulgating regula-
8 tions to carry out section 1861(s)(7) of the Social
9 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(7)) with respect to
10 the coverage of ambulance services, the Secretary of
11 Health and Human Services shall include coverage
12 of advanced life support intercept services (in this
13 subsection referred to as ‘ALS intercept services’).

14 “(2) CONDITIONS OF COVERAGE.—For the pur-
15 poses of this subsection, ALS intercept services con-
16 sist of a qualified paramedic providing ALS level
17 services in connection with the transport of a patient
18 by an ambulance qualified to provide only a basic
19 life support level of services if the following condi-
20 tions are met:

21 “(A) The entity providing the ambulance
22 transportation is a public, non-profit, or volun-
23 teer organization which—

24 “(i) is certified as qualified to provide
25 ambulance services under title XVIII of
26 the Social Security Act; and

1 “(ii) provides only basic life support
2 services at the time of the intercept.

3 “(B) The paramedic providing such serv-
4 ices is not employed or compensated by the en-
5 tity providing the ambulance transportation and
6 the entity employing or compensating such
7 paramedic is not related to the entity providing
8 the ambulance transportation.

9 “(C) The ALS intercept services are re-
10 quested by the entity providing the ambulance
11 transportation or are dispatched to coordinate
12 with such entity and such services are medically
13 necessary based on the medical condition for
14 which they are dispatched.

15 “(D) The entity that is employing or com-
16 pensating that paramedic—

17 “(i) is certified as qualified to provide
18 such services under such title; and

19 “(ii) bills all individuals (or their in-
20 surers) who receive ALS intercept services
21 from the entity, regardless of whether such
22 individuals are beneficiaries under such
23 title.

24 “(E) The paramedic providing the inter-
25 cept services accompanies and provides an ALS

1 assessment or ALS intervention to the patient
2 during the transport.”.

3 (b) PAYMENTS NOT COUNTED IN COMPUTING AMBU-
4 LANCE FEE SCHEDULE AMOUNTS.—The Secretary of
5 Health and Human Services shall not take into account
6 any payments made pursuant to the amendment made by
7 subsection (a) in determining payment amounts under the
8 ambulance fee schedule under section 1834(l) of the Social
9 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(l)), or the aggregate
10 amount of payments under such section, for any year.

11 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
12 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to ambulance serv-
13 ices provided on or after January 1, 2004.

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