

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2319

To establish a Mail-Order Pharmacy Pilot Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2007

Mr. BILIRAKIS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To establish a Mail-Order Pharmacy Pilot 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 “TRICARE Mail-Order
5 Pharmacy Pilot Program Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MAIL-ORDER PHARMACY PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 (a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall
8 conduct a pilot program to educate and motivate bene-
9 ficiaries to voluntarily increase their use of the TRICARE
10 mail-order pharmacy.

11 (b) SCOPE OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The pilot program
12 shall include at least 2,000 eligible beneficiaries in each

1 TRICARE region, of whom at least 1,000 in each
2 TRICARE region shall be enrolled in Medicare Part B.
3 Beneficiaries chosen to participate in the pilot program
4 should be those who have filled prescriptions for one or
5 more maintenance medications in the TRICARE retail
6 pharmacy system and who have not previously used the
7 TRICARE mail-order pharmacy.

8 (c) DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The pilot pro-
9 gram shall begin no later than March 1, 2008, and shall
10 continue for two years.

11 (d) ADMINISTRATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The
12 Secretary shall consult with representatives of beneficiary
13 associations in designing, executing, and evaluating the re-
14 sults of the pilot program, which shall, at a minimum—

15 (1) offer mail-order medications within the
16 TRICARE formulary to pilot program participants
17 at a beneficiary copayment of zero;

18 (2) provide each beneficiary chosen for the pilot
19 program an individual notification letter explaining
20 the advantages to the beneficiary in terms of the
21 convenience of home delivery and cost savings;

22 (3) provide a personalized summary for each
23 such beneficiary indicating the savings such bene-
24 ficiary personally would have realized had the bene-
25 ficiary used the mail-order system for the specific

1 medications such beneficiary was prescribed during
2 a previous 12-month period;

3 (4) provide simplified application and instruc-
4 tion guidelines and such other information as the
5 Secretary deems useful to facilitate the beneficiary's
6 expedited use of the mail-order pharmacy; and

7 (5) survey beneficiaries selected for the pilot
8 program to determine members' understanding of
9 and satisfaction with the mail-order pharmacy pro-
10 gram, the factors that motivated them to use or not
11 use the mail-order pharmacy program, the specific
12 reasons for any dissatisfaction with the mail-order
13 pharmacy program, the extent to which they found
14 the Secretary's instruction materials helpful, the ex-
15 tent to which they would recommend other bene-
16 ficiaries' use of such program, and suggestions for
17 ways to further increase beneficiaries' use of the
18 mail-order pharmacy.

19 (e) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall provide reports
20 to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
21 House of Representatives on October 1, 2008, April 1,
22 2009, and October 1, 2009, to include—

23 (1) the extent to which beneficiaries selected for
24 the pilot program shifted their use between phar-
25 macy venues;

1 (2) the extent to which such behavior changes
2 affected pharmacy costs for the Department of De-
3 fense and the beneficiaries, respectively;

4 (3) summaries of beneficiary survey results, to
5 the extent they are available on the date of each re-
6 port;

7 (4) an assessment of the effect of reducing the
8 mail-order copay to zero on pharmacy program costs
9 and the advisability of expanding the pilot program
10 initiative to include all eligible beneficiaries; and

11 (5) any other analysis, observations, and rec-
12 ommendations the Secretary may deem appropriate.

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