

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 470

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for continuity of Medicare prescription drug coverage for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, for Medicare prescription drug coverage of benzodiazepines and off-label uses of certain prescription drugs and biological products, for optional Medicaid coverage of Medicare prescription drug cost-sharing for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, and for authorization to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain determinations denying Medicare prescription drug coverage.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 12, 2007

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico 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 titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for continuity of Medicare prescription drug coverage for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, for Medicare prescription drug coverage of benzodiazepines and off-label uses of certain prescription drugs and biological products, for optional Medicaid coverage of Medicare prescription drug cost-sharing for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, and for authorization to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain

determinations denying Medicare prescription drug coverage.

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. CONTINUITY OF MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION**
4 **DRUG COVERAGE FOR FULL-BENEFIT DUAL**
5 **ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1860D–2(a) of the Social
7 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–102(a)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “subject to
9 paragraph (6),” after “part C”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new
11 paragraph:

12 “(6) CONTINUATION OF MEDICARE COVERAGE
13 FOR CERTAIN PRESCRIPTIONS FOR FULL-BENEFIT
14 DUAL ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—In the case of an in-
15 dividual who, as of the date the individual is first
16 enrolled under a prescription drug plan under this
17 part (or an MA–PD plan under part C), is a full-
18 benefit dual eligible individual and is being provided
19 medical assistance for a covered part D drug under
20 title XIX, qualified prescription drug coverage must
21 include coverage for such drug unless a prescribing
22 physician certifies that the coverage of such drug is
23 not medically necessary, regardless of whether the

1 individual subsequently remains a full-benefit dual
2 eligible individual.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
4 subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enact-
5 ment of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and
6 Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–173).

7 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE OF**
8 **BENZODIAZEPINES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1860D–2(e)(2)(A) of the
10 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–112(e)(2)(A)) is
11 amended by inserting after “agents)” the following: “and
12 other than subparagraph (J) of such section (relating to
13 benzodiazepines)”.

14 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
15 subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enact-
16 ment of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and
17 Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–173).

18 **SEC. 3. PERMITTING STATE MEDICAID PROGRAMS TO**
19 **COVER MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG CO-**
20 **PAYMENTS FOR FULL-BENEFIT DUAL ELIGI-**
21 **BLE INDIVIDUALS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1935(d) of the Social Se-
23 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396u–5(d)) is amended by adding
24 at the end the following new paragraph:

1 safety and effectiveness of such drug as a prescrip-
2 tion drug under section 505 or 507 of the Federal
3 Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act or approval of such
4 drug under section 505(j) of such Act; or

5 “(B) a biological product described in para-
6 graph (1)(B) on the sole basis that such product is
7 prescribed by a physician for a use other than a use
8 included in the labeling of such product pursuant to
9 the licensure of such product under section 351 of
10 the Public Health Service Act;

11 even if the unlabeled use of the drug or product is not
12 included in a standard clinical reference compendia used
13 by clinicians for purposes of providing guidance to such
14 clinicians with respect to unlabeled uses of such a drug
15 or product.”.

16 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
17 subsection (a) shall be effective as if included in the enact-
18 ment of Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and
19 Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108–173).

20 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION FOR SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND**
21 **HUMAN SERVICES TO WAIVE DENIAL OF PRE-**
22 **SCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1860D–4(h) of the Social
24 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–104(h)) is amended at the
25 end by adding the following new paragraph:

1 “(4) AUTHORIZATION FOR SECRETARY TO WAIVE
2 DENIAL OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.—After a
3 part D eligible individual has exhausted all rights of such
4 individual under this subsection and subsection (g), with
5 respect to a determination made under this subsection or
6 subsection (g) for a prescription drug plan not to provide
7 for coverage of a covered part D drug (or a determination
8 related to the application of tiered cost-sharing described
9 in subsection (g)(2)), the individual may apply to the Sec-
10 retary for a waiver that requires the prescription drug
11 plan to provide for such coverage (or provide for an excep-
12 tion to the structure of such tiered cost-sharing). Upon
13 receipt of such application, the Secretary may grant such
14 waiver if the prescribing physician certifies that the cov-
15 erage of such prescription drug is medically necessary with
16 respect to the individual.”.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
18 subsection (a) shall apply to determinations made on or
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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