

106TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5556

To amend the Social Security Act to reduce the waiting period for benefits under the medicare program from two years to 18 months for individuals with disabilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2000

Mr. SANDLIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on 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 the Social Security Act to reduce the waiting period for benefits under the medicare program from two years to 18 months for individuals with disabilities.

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 Disability
5 Eligibility Waiting Period Reduction Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. REDUCTION IN WAITING PERIOD FOR INDIVIDUALS**
2 **WITH DISABILITIES.**

3 (a) TITLE II OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—Sec-
4 tion 226(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 426(b))
5 is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “24 cal-
7 endar months” and inserting “18 calendar months”;

8 (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “24
9 months” and inserting “18 months”;

10 (3) in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), by striking “24
11 months” and inserting “18 months”;

12 (4) in the matter following paragraph (2)(C) in
13 the first sentence, by striking “the twenty-fifth
14 month” and inserting “the nineteenth month”; and

15 (5) in the second sentence, by striking “the
16 twenty-fourth month” and inserting “the eighteenth
17 month”.

18 (b) TITLE XVIII OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT.—

19 (1) Clause (2) of section 1811 of the Social Security Act
20 (42 U.S.C. 1395e) is amended by striking “24 months”
21 and inserting “18 months”.

22 (2) Section 1837(g)(1)(B) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
23 1395p(g)(1)(B)) is amended by striking “before the 25th
24 month” and inserting “before the nineteenth month”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to benefits for months beginning
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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