

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 984

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 22, 2015

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

AN ACT

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

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 “Steve Gleason Act of
 5 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROVIDING MEDICARE BENEFICIARY ACCESS TO**
 7 **EYE TRACKING ACCESSORIES FOR SPEECH**
 8 **GENERATING DEVICES.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(n) of the Social Se-
 10 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended by inserting
 11 “and eye tracking and gaze interaction accessories for
 12 speech generating devices furnished to individuals with a
 13 demonstrated medical need for such accessories” after
 14 “appropriate organizations”).

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
 16 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to devices furnished
 17 on or after January 1, 2016.

18 **SEC. 3. REMOVING THE RENTAL CAP FOR DURABLE MED-**
 19 **ICAL EQUIPMENT UNDER MEDICARE WITH**
 20 **RESPECT TO SPEECH GENERATING DEVICES.**

21 Section 1834(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
 22 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

23 (1) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end;

24 (2) in clause (iii), by adding “or” at the end;

25 and

1 (3) by inserting after clause (iii) the following
2 new clause:

3 “(iv) in the case of devices furnished
4 on or after October 1, 2015, and before
5 October 1, 2018, which serves as a speech
6 generating device or which is an accessory
7 that is needed for the individual to effec-
8 tively utilize such a device,”.

Passed the Senate April 22, 2015.

Attest: JULIE E. ADAMS,
Secretary.