

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, today is the last day of this year of the session of Congress, and I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank my press secretary, Heather Lasher Todd, who is actually leaving today and going back to St. Louis, where she is from, with her husband. Both of them used to work for Congressman CARNAHAN, who was here before on the floor.

Many of my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle see Heather on a daily basis when she is down here with me trying to get Members to do 1-minute and other message opportunities, and also worked very hard to have our weekly message meetings and come up with timely topics and people who would speak.

I am going to sorely miss her. I know that many of my colleagues will as well. I just want to wish her and her husband a great future back in St. Louis where they are from.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Recorded votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND SCHIP EXTENSION ACT OF 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2499) to amend titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act to extend provisions under the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 2499

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act may be cited as the “Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MEDICARE

Sec. 101. Increase in physician payment update; extension of the physician quality reporting system.

Sec. 102. Extension of Medicare incentive payment program for physician scarcity areas.

Sec. 103. Extension of floor on work geographic adjustment under the Medicare physician fee schedule.

Sec. 104. Extension of treatment of certain physician pathology services under Medicare.

Sec. 105. Extension of exceptions process for Medicare therapy caps.

Sec. 106. Extension of payment rule for brachytherapy; extension to therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals.

Sec. 107. Extension of Medicare reasonable costs payments for certain clinical diagnostic laboratory tests furnished to hospital patients in certain rural areas.

Sec. 108. Extension of authority of specialized Medicare Advantage plans for special needs individuals to restrict enrollment.

Sec. 109. Extension of deadline for application of limitation on extension or renewal of Medicare reasonable cost contract plans.

Sec. 110. Adjustment to the Medicare Advantage stabilization fund.

Sec. 111. Medicare secondary payor.

Sec. 112. Payment for part B drugs.

Sec. 113. Payment rate for certain diagnostic laboratory tests.

Sec. 114. Long-term care hospitals.

Sec. 115. Payment for inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) services.

Sec. 116. Extension of accommodation of physicians ordered to active duty in the Armed Services.

Sec. 117. Treatment of certain hospitals.

Sec. 118. Additional Funding for State Health Insurance Assistance Programs, Area Agencies on Aging, and Aging and Disability Resource Centers.

TITLE II—MEDICAID AND SCHIP

Sec. 201. Extending SCHIP funding through March 31, 2009.

Sec. 202. Extension of transitional medical assistance (TMA) and abstinence education program.

Sec. 203. Extension of qualifying individual (QI) program.

Sec. 204. Medicaid DSH extension.

Sec. 205. Improving data collection.

Sec. 206. Moratorium on certain payment restrictions.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 301. Medicare Payment Advisory Commission status.

Sec. 302. Special Diabetes Programs for Type I Diabetes and Indians.

TITLE I—MEDICARE

SEC. 101. INCREASE IN PHYSICIAN PAYMENT UPDATE; EXTENSION OF THE PHYSICIAN QUALITY REPORTING SYSTEM.

(a) INCREASE IN PHYSICIAN PAYMENT UPDATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(d)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking “and paragraphs (5) and (6)” and inserting “and the succeeding paragraphs of this subsection”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) UPDATE FOR A PORTION OF 2008.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (7)(B), in lieu of the update to the single conversion factor established in paragraph (1)(C) that would otherwise apply for 2008, for the period beginning on January 1, 2008, and ending on June 30, 2008, the update to the single conversion factor shall be 0.5 percent.

“(B) NO EFFECT ON COMPUTATION OF CONVERSION FACTOR FOR THE REMAINING PORTION OF 2008 AND 2009.—The conversion factor under this subsection shall be computed under paragraph (1)(A) for the period beginning on July 1, 2008, and ending on December 31, 2008, and for 2009 and subsequent years as if subparagraph (A) had never applied.”

(2) REVISION OF THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANCE AND QUALITY INITIATIVE FUND.—

(A) REVISION.—Section 1848(l)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(l)(2)) is amended—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) AMOUNT AVAILABLE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), there shall be available to the Fund the following amounts:

“(I) For expenditures during 2008, an amount equal to \$150,500,000.

“(II) For expenditures during 2009, an amount equal to \$24,500,000.

“(III) For expenditures during 2013, an amount equal to \$4,960,000,000.

“(ii) LIMITATIONS ON EXPENDITURES.—

“(I) 2008.—The amount available for expenditures during 2008 shall be reduced as provided by subparagraph (A) of section 225(c)(1) and section 524 of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 (division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008).

“(II) 2009.—The amount available for expenditures during 2009 shall be reduced as provided by subparagraph (B) of such section 225(c)(1).

“(III) 2013.—The amount available for expenditures during 2013 shall only be available for an adjustment to the update of the conversion factor under subsection (d) for that year.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “entire amount specified in the first sentence of subparagraph (A)” and all that follows and inserting the following: “entire amount available for expenditures, after application of subparagraph (A)(ii), during—

“(i) 2008 for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished during 2008;

“(ii) 2009 for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished during 2009; and

“(iii) 2013 for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished during 2013.”.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(ii) SPECIAL RULE FOR COORDINATION WITH CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008.—If the date of the enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, occurs on or after the date described in clause (i), the amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall be deemed to be made on the day after the effective date of sections 225(c)(1) and 524 of the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 (division G of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008).

(C) TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO PART B TRUST FUND.—Amounts that would have been available to the Physician Assistance and Quality Initiative Fund under section 1848(l)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(l)(2)) for payment with respect to physicians’ services furnished prior to January 1, 2013, but for the amendments made by subparagraph (A), shall be deposited into, and made available for expenditures from, the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund under section 1841 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395t).

(b) EXTENSION OF THE PHYSICIAN QUALITY REPORTING SYSTEM.—

(1) SYSTEM.—Section 1848(k)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(k)(2)(B)) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by inserting “AND 2009” after “2008”; and

(B) in clause (i), by inserting “and 2009” after “2008”; and

(C) in each of clauses (ii) and (iii)—

(i) by striking “, 2007” and inserting “of each of 2007 and 2008”; and

(ii) by inserting “or 2009, as applicable” after “2008”.