

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5927

To delay for one year the release of the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2016

Mr. RENACCI (for himself and Miss RICE of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To delay for one year the release of the Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings, and for other purposes.

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 “Hospital Quality Rat-  
5 ing Transparency Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. ONE-YEAR DELAY FOR RELEASE OF OVERALL HOS-**  
7 **PITAL QUALITY STAR RATINGS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
9 Human Services, with respect to any Overall Hospital  
10 Quality Star Ratings for hospitals (such as ratings gen-

1 erated by the rating system described in the Fact Sheet  
2 issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
3 through the QualityNet Internet website entitled “Overall  
4 Hospital Quality Star Ratings Fact Sheet, July 2016 Pre-  
5 view Period”)—

6 (1) shall make publicly available detailed infor-  
7 mation on the methodology used to calculate such  
8 Ratings;

9 (2) shall have the validity and accuracy of such  
10 methodology confirmed by an independent statisti-  
11 cian not otherwise engaged by the Secretary in star  
12 ratings measure development activities;

13 (3) shall provide, with respect to the ratings  
14 system that is to use such methodology and data to  
15 calculate such Ratings, a public comment period  
16 that—

17 (A) begins on a date that is after the date  
18 on which the Secretary, under paragraph (1),  
19 makes publicly available the detailed informa-  
20 tion described in such paragraph; and

21 (B) is at least 60 days in duration; and

22 (4) may not make such Ratings publicly avail-  
23 able (such as by publishing on the Internet website  
24 commonly known as the “Hospital Compare”  
25 website) on a date that is before the latest of—

1           (A) the date on which the independent  
2           statistician described in paragraph (2) provides  
3           the confirmation described in such paragraph;

4           (B) the date on which the public comment  
5           period described in paragraph (3) concludes;  
6           and

7           (C) July 31, 2017.

8           (b) APPLICATION IN CASE OF PUBLICATION BEFORE  
9           ENACTMENT.—In the case that the Secretary publishes  
10          such Ratings on the Internet website commonly known as  
11          the “Hospital Compare” website on a date that is before  
12          the date of the enactment of this act, the Secretary shall  
13          apply subsection (a) by—

14               (1) removing such Ratings from such Internet  
15               website as soon as is practicable; and

16               (2) in accordance with subsection (a)(4), not re-  
17               publishing after the date of the enactment of this  
18               Act any such Ratings on such Internet website or  
19               otherwise so making any such Ratings publicly avail-  
20               able on a date that is before the latest of the dates  
21               described in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of  
22               such subsection.

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