

Union Calendar No. 804

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7931

[Report No. 118–955, Part I]

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update the fee schedule for ambulance services provided by critical access hospitals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 2024

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia (for herself and Ms. CARAVEO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and 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

DECEMBER 27, 2024

Additional sponsors: Mr. MOONEY and Ms. LOFGREN

DECEMBER 27, 2024

Reported from the Committee on Ways and Means with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

DECEMBER 27, 2024

Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 10, 2024]

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update the fee schedule for ambulance services provided by critical access hospitals.

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 “Preserving Emergency*
 5 *Access in Key Sites Act” or the “PEAKS Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. UPDATE TO FEE SCHEDULE FOR AMBULANCE SERV-**
 7 **ICES PROVIDED BY CRITICAL ACCESS HOS-**
 8 **PITALS.**

9 *Section 1834(l)(8) of the Social Security Act (42*
 10 *U.S.C. 1395m(l)(8)) is amended in the flush left text fol-*
 11 *lowing subparagraph (B) by inserting “(or, in the case of*
 12 *mountainous terrain or in areas with only secondary roads*
 13 *available, with respect to services furnished on or after Jan-*
 14 *uary 1, 2026, a 15-mile drive)” after “35-mile drive”.*

15 **SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF HOSPITALS THAT MET MOUN-**
 16 **TAINOUS TERRAIN OR SECONDARY ROADS**
 17 **DISTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR DESIGNATION**
 18 **AS CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL.**

19 *Section 1820(h) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.*
 20 *1395i–4(h)) is amended by adding at the end the following*
 21 *new paragraph:*

22 *“(4) TREATMENT OF HOSPITALS THAT MET*
 23 *MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN OR SECONDARY ROADS DIS-*
 24 *TANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR DESIGNATION.—*

1 “(A) *IN GENERAL.*—Beginning January 1,
2 2025, in the case of a hospital described in sub-
3 paragraph (B), such hospital shall be deemed to
4 meet the 15-mile distance requirement for moun-
5 tainous terrain or secondary roads described in
6 subsection (c)(2)(B)(i)(I).

7 “(B) *HOSPITAL DESCRIBED.*—A hospital
8 described in this subparagraph is a hospital
9 that—

10 “(i) as of the date of enactment of this
11 paragraph, is designated as a critical access
12 hospital;

13 “(ii) demonstrates (in a manner deter-
14 mined by the Secretary) that the hospital
15 met the 15-mile distance requirement for
16 mountainous terrain or secondary roads de-
17 scribed in subsection (c)(2)(B)(i)(I) as of
18 the hospital’s last certification as a critical
19 access hospital; and

20 “(iii) after such date of enactment, has
21 a new hospital or other facility described in
22 this subsection that is located not less than
23 10, but no more than 15, miles from the
24 hospital.

1 “(C) *REGULATIONS.*—*Not later than 1 year*
2 *after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the*
3 *Secretary shall promulgate regulations to carry*
4 *out this paragraph.*”.

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