

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8995

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program to reimburse health care providers for furnishing rabies postexposure prophylaxis to uninsured individuals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program to reimburse health care providers for furnishing rabies postexposure prophylaxis to uninsured individuals.

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 “Affordable Rabies
5 Treatment for Uninsured Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND**
2 **HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH A PRO-**
3 **GRAM TO REIMBURSE HEALTH CARE PRO-**
4 **VIDERS FOR FURNISHING RABIES**
5 **POSTEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS TO UNIN-**
6 **SURED INDIVIDUALS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and
8 Human Services shall establish a program under which—

9 (1) program-registered providers submit claims
10 to the Secretary with respect to the furnishing of
11 medically necessary rabies postexposure prophylaxis
12 to uninsured individuals; and

13 (2) the Secretary, subject to the availability of
14 appropriations, pays each such provider for such
15 prophylaxis in an amount determined appropriate by
16 the Secretary.

17 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) PROGRAM-REGISTERED PROVIDER.—The
19 term “program-registered provider” means a health
20 care provider that—

21 (A) is licensed or otherwise authorized to
22 furnish rabies postexposure prophylaxis in the
23 State in which such provider furnishes such
24 prophylaxis under the program established
25 under this section; and

1 (B) enters into an agreement with the Sec-
2 retary under which the provider agrees—

3 (i) not to hold an uninsured individual
4 liable for the cost of rabies postexposure
5 prophylaxis with respect to which a pay-
6 ment is made under subsection (a)(2); and

7 (ii) to limit any charge to such indi-
8 vidual for the administration of such pro-
9 phylaxis with respect to which such a pay-
10 ment is so made to an amount specified by
11 the Secretary.

12 (2) RABIES POSTEXPOSURE PROHYLAXIS.—The
13 term “rabies postexposure prophylaxis” means
14 human rabies immune globulin and rabies vaccine
15 doses, or any other treatment specified by the Sec-
16 retary, furnished in accordance with guidelines speci-
17 fied by the Secretary to an individual who has been
18 potentially exposed to the rabies virus to prevent the
19 occurrence of rabies.

20 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
21 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

22 (4) UNINSURED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “unin-
23 sured individual” means, with respect to an indi-
24 vidual furnished rabies postexposure prophylaxis, an
25 individual who—

1 (A) is not enrolled in—

2 (i) a Federal health care program (as
3 defined in section 1128B(f) of the Social
4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7b(f)));

5 (ii) a group health plan or health in-
6 surance coverage offered by a health insur-
7 ance issuer in the group or individual mar-
8 ket (as such terms are defined in section
9 2791 of the Public Health Service Act (42
10 U.S.C. 300gg–91)); or

11 (iii) a health plan offered under chap-
12 ter 89 of title 5, United States Code; or

13 (B) is enrolled in a program, plan, or cov-
14 erage described in subparagraph (A) that does
15 not provide any benefits for such prophylaxis
16 under such program, plan, or coverage (as ap-
17 plicable).

○