

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1534

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make adjustments to payment rates for skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare program to account for certain unique circumstances.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 10, 2023

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SULLIVAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make adjustments to payment rates for skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare program to account for certain unique circumstances.

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 “Equitable Payments  
5 for Nursing Facilities Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND**  
2 **HUMAN SERVICES TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS**  
3 **TO PAYMENT RATES FOR SKILLED NURSING**  
4 **FACILITIES UNDER THE MEDICARE PRO-**  
5 **GRAM TO ACCOUNT FOR CERTAIN UNIQUE**  
6 **CIRCUMSTANCES.**

7 Section 1888(e)(4)(G) of the Social Security Act (42  
8 U.S.C. 1395yy(e)(4)(G)) is amended by adding at the end  
9 the following new clause:

10 “(iv) ADJUSTMENT FOR UNIQUE CIR-  
11 CUMSTANCES.—The Secretary may provide  
12 for such adjustments as determined appro-  
13 priate by the Secretary to take into ac-  
14 count the unique circumstances of skilled  
15 nursing facilities located in Alaska or Ha-  
16 waii.”.

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