

119TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 1911

To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to codify the Panel of Health Advisors within the Congressional Budget Office, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

May 22, 2025

Mr. Ricketts introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Budget

A BILL

To amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to codify the Panel of Health Advisors within the Congressional Budget Office, 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 "Healthy Equipping
- 5 And Lending Technical Help Panel Act" or the
- 6 "HEALTH Panel Act".

1	SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PANEL OF
2	HEALTH ADVISORS.
3	(a) In General.—Title II of the Congressional
4	Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C.
5	601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6	lowing:
7	"SEC. 204. PANEL OF HEALTH ADVISORS.
8	"(a) In General.—The Panel of Health Advisors
9	(in this section referred to as the 'Panel') shall be within
10	the Congressional Budget Office.
11	"(b) Duties and Priority Target Areas.—
12	"(1) Duties.—The Panel shall—
13	"(A) provide technical and functional ex-
14	pertise and recommendations to the Congres-
15	sional Budget Office to improve the office's
16	studies, analysis, and cost estimates related to
17	health and health care issues and policies;
18	"(B) meet at least once annually; and
19	"(C) issue an annual report to the chair
20	and ranking minority members of the Com-
21	mittee on the Budget of the House of Rep-
22	resentatives and the Committee on the Budget
23	of the Senate which—
24	"(i) details the work of the Panel and
25	includes such recommendations as have
26	been approved by a vote of at least 9 mem-

1	bers of the Panel and provided to the Con-
2	gressional Budget Office; and
3	"(ii) includes a description prepared

"(ii) includes a description prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office detailing how the office utilized any such recommendations provided under clause (i) and the extent to which any such recommendations were integrated into the office's studies and cost estimates.

"(2) Priority target areas.—For the purposes of this section, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office, in consultation with the chairs and ranking minority members of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Budget of the Senate, as well as members on the Panel, shall determine priorities to address in meetings of the Panel, and the report detailed under paragraph (1)(C). The Panel shall provide expertise and recommendations under paragraph (1) with specific respect to the following areas:

"(A) Non-economic and economic studies on health and health care issues and policies developed by the Congressional Budget Office.

1	"(B) Official cost estimates prepared by
2	the Congressional Budget Office for proposed
3	health care legislation.
4	"(C) Models developed and utilized by the
5	Congressional Budget Office to project non-eco-
6	nomic and economic impacts of health care pol-
7	icy changes and legislation.
8	"(D) Health care components of the Con-
9	gressional Budget Office's annual Budget and
10	Economic Outlook publications, Federal Health
11	Subsidies for Health Insurance reports, Health
12	Insurance Coverage Projections, and other offi-
13	cial publications related to health and health
14	care by the Congressional Budget Office.
15	"(3) Publication.—The Director of the Con-
16	gressional Budget Office shall publish, on the Of-
17	fice's public website, the annual report prepared pur-
18	suant to paragraph (1)(C).
19	"(4) ETHICAL DISCLOSURE; CONFIDEN-
20	TIALITY.—The Director of the Congressional Budget
21	Office may establish—
22	"(A) a system for public disclosure by
23	members of the Panel related to potential con-
24	flicts of interest relating to such members; and

1	"(B) confidentiality agreements with mem-
2	bers of the Panel to protect information ob-
3	tained by the Government on a confidential
4	basis to inform official work products and con-
5	fidential congressional requests for analytical
6	reports and budgetary scoring estimates.
7	"(c) Membership.—
8	"(1) Number and appointment.—The mem-
9	bership of the Panel shall include 15 members ap-
10	pointed not later than 90 days after the date of the
11	enactment of this section, of which—
12	"(A) 3 members shall be appointed by the
13	chair of the Committee on the Budget of the
14	House of Representatives;
15	"(B) 3 members shall be appointed by the
16	ranking minority member of the Committee on
17	the Budget of the House of Representatives;
18	"(C) 3 members shall be appointed by the
19	chair of the Committee on the Budget of the
20	Senate;
21	"(D) 3 members shall be appointed by the
22	ranking minority member of the Committee on
23	the Budget of the Senate; and
24	"(E) 3 members shall be appointed by the
25	Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

"(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The membership of the 1 2 Panel shall aim to include, but not be limited to, in-3 dividuals with national recognition for their expertise 4 in health finance and economics, actuarial science, 5 health facility management, life sciences and drug 6 development, investment in health care companies, 7 health plans and integrated delivery systems, reim-8 bursement of health facilities, allopathic and osteo-9 pathic physicians, and other providers of health serv-10 ices, Medicare, Medicaid, and other related fields. 11 SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.— 12 Members of the Panel shall serve as special Govern-13 ment employees (as defined in section 202(a) of title 14 18, United States Code). 15 "(d) Terms.— "(1) IN GENERAL.—The terms of the members 16 17 of the Panel shall be for 3 years, except that the Di-18 rector of the Congressional Budget Office shall des-19 ignate staggered terms of the members first ap-20 pointed. 21

"(2) VACANCIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A vacancy in the Panel shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

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"(B) TERM OF MEMBER APPOINTED TO FILL VACANCY.—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed only for the re-mainder of that term, except that a member may serve after the expiration of that member's term until a successor has taken office. "(3) Chair; vice chair.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall designate a member of the Panel, at the time of appointment of the member, as chair and a member as vice chair for that term of appointment, except that in the case of vacancy of the chair or vice chair, the Director of the Congressional Budget Office may designate another member for the remainder of that member's term.

- "(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The chair and vice chair shall be appointed by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office—
- "(i) after considering recommendations received from the chairs of the Committee on the Budget of the House of Rep-

1	resentatives and the Committee on the
2	Budget of the Senate;
3	"(ii) without regard to political affili-
4	ation; and
5	"(iii) solely on the basis of their fit-
6	ness to perform their duties.
7	"(4) Limits.—Members of the Panel shall be
8	limited to two 3-year terms, for a total of not to ex-
9	ceed 6 years of service on the Panel. For purposes
10	of this paragraph, any year of service on the Panel
11	by a person appointed to fill a vacancy under para-
12	graph (2) shall be included in determining the num-
13	ber of years that such person has served on the
14	Panel.".
15	(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
16	of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating
17	to section 203 the following:

"204. Panel of Health Advisors.".

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