

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3932

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for increased Puerto Rico Medicaid payments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 2017

Mr. LANCE (for himself and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to provide for increased Puerto Rico Medicaid payments, 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 “Healthcare Expendi-
5 tures for Low-income Populations in Puerto Rico Act” or
6 the “HELP Puerto Rico Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. PUERTO RICO MEDICAID PAYMENTS.**

8 (a) INCREASED CAP.—Section 1108(g) of the Social
9 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1308(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “(or, with respect to fiscal years 2018 and 2019, increased by such percentage increase plus one percentage point)” after “beginning of the fiscal year”; and

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “subparagraph (B)” and inserting “subparagraphs (B), (C), (D), and (E)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

“(C) The amount of the increase otherwise provided under subparagraph (A) for Puerto Rico shall be further increased by \$880,000,000.

“(D)(i) For the period beginning October 1, 2017, and ending December 31, 2019, the amount of the increase otherwise provided under subparagraph (A) for Puerto Rico shall be further increased by \$120,000,000 if the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico established under section 101 of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (48 U.S.C. 2121) certifies by a majority vote that Puerto Rico has

1 taken reasonable and appropriate steps during
2 such period to—

3 “(I) reduce fraud, waste, and abuse
4 under the program under title XIX;

5 “(II) implement strategies to reduce
6 unnecessary, inefficient, or excessive
7 spending under title XIX;

8 “(III) improve the use and availability
9 of Medicaid data for program operation
10 and oversight; and

11 “(IV) improve the quality of care and
12 patient experience for individuals enrolled
13 under the program under title XIX.

14 “(ii) As a condition of any additional in-
15 crease pursuant to clause (i), not later than Oc-
16 tober 1, 2018, Puerto Rico shall submit to the
17 Financial Oversight and Management Board for
18 Puerto Rico a report regarding steps taken to
19 achieve each of the goals described in sub-
20 clauses (I) through (IV) of clause (i).

21 “(E) Payments under section 1903(a)(8)
22 for a quarter of a fiscal year shall not be taken
23 into account in applying subsection (f) (as in-
24 creased in accordance with this paragraph and

1 paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4)) to Puerto
2 Rico for such fiscal year.”.

3 (b) FEDERAL MATCH FOR MEDICAL PERSONNEL
4 AND FRAUD REDUCTION.—Section 1903(a) of the Social
5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “subject
7 to paragraph (8),” before “an amount”;

8 (2) in paragraph (6)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
10 “subject to paragraph (8),” before “75 per cen-
11 tum”; and

12 (B) by striking at the end “plus”;

13 (3) in paragraph (7), by striking at the end the
14 period and inserting “; plus”; and

15 (4) by adding at the end the following new
16 paragraph:

17 “(8) for quarters during the period beginning
18 January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2019,
19 paragraphs (2)(A) and (6) shall apply with respect
20 to Puerto Rico as if—

21 “(A) the reference to ‘75 per centum’ in
22 paragraph (2)(A) were a reference to ‘90 per
23 centum’; and

1 “(B) the reference to ‘75 per centum’ in
2 paragraph (6)(B) were a reference to ‘90 per
3 centum’.”.

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