

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1732

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to promote testing of incentive payments for behavioral health providers for adoption and use of certified electronic health record technology.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 3, 2017

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to promote testing of incentive payments for behavioral health providers for adoption and use of certified electronic health record technology.

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 “Improving Access to
5 Behavioral Health Information Technology Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TESTING OF INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR BEHAV-**
 2 **IORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS FOR ADOPTION**
 3 **AND USE OF CERTIFIED ELECTRONIC**
 4 **HEALTH RECORD TECHNOLOGY.**

5 Section 1115A(b)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act
 6 (42 U.S.C. 1315a(b)(2)(B)) is amended by adding at the
 7 end the following new clause:

8 “(xxv) Providing incentive payments
 9 to behavioral health providers for the adop-
 10 tion and use of certified electronic health
 11 record technology (as defined in section
 12 1848(o)(4)) to improve the quality and co-
 13 ordination of care through the electronic
 14 documentation and exchange of health in-
 15 formation. Behavioral health providers may
 16 include—

17 “(I) public or private hospitals
 18 that are principally psychiatric hos-
 19 pitals (as defined in section 1861(f));

20 “(II) community mental health
 21 centers (as described in section
 22 1913(b)(2) of the Public Health Serv-
 23 ice Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–2(b)(2)));

24 “(III) accredited residential or
 25 outpatient mental health treatment
 26 facilities;

1 “(IV) accredited substance abuse
2 treatment facilities;
3 “(V) clinical psychologists (as de-
4 fined in section 1861(ii)); and
5 “(VI) clinical social workers (as
6 defined in section 1861(hh)(1)).”.

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