

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1638

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that geographic reclassifications of hospitals from one urban area to another urban area do not result in lower wage indexes in the urban area in which the hospital was originally classified.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2001

Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. HALL of Ohio, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Ms. DELAURO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that geographic reclassifications of hospitals from one urban area to another urban area do not result in lower wage indexes in the urban area in which the hospital was originally classified.

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 “Medicare Geographic
5 Reclassifications Equity Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF WAGE INDEX FOR HOSPITAL GEO-**
2 **GRAPHIC RECLASSIFICATIONS FROM ONE**
3 **URBAN AREA TO ANOTHER URBAN AREA.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1886(d)(8)(C)(ii) of the
5 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(8)(C)(ii)) is
6 amended—

7 (1) by inserting “(I)” after “(ii)”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 clause:

10 “(II) If the application of subparagraph (B) or a de-
11 cision of the Medicare Geographic Classification Review
12 Board or the Secretary under paragraph (10), by treating
13 hospitals located in one urban area as being located in
14 another urban area reduces the wage index for that one
15 urban area (as applied under this subsection), the Sec-
16 retary shall calculate and apply such wage index under
17 this subsection as if the hospitals so treated had not been
18 excluded from the calculation of the wage index for that
19 one urban area.”.

20 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
21 subsection (a) apply to cost reporting periods beginning
22 on or after October 1, 2001.

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