

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2549

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for equitable reimbursement rates under the Medicare Program to Medicare+Choice organizations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 18, 2001

Ms. DUNN of Washington (for herself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. DICKS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. NETHERCUTT, and Mr. BAIRD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for equitable reimbursement rates under the Medicare Program to Medicare+Choice organizations.

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 Equity and
5 Access Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF REDUCTION IN**
 2 **MEDICARE+CHOICE PAYMENT RATES BY**
 3 **BUDGET NEUTRALITY ADJUSTMENTS.**

4 Section 1853(c)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
 5 U.S.C. 1395w-23(c)(1)(A)) is amended by adding at the
 6 end the following: “With respect to years beginning on or
 7 after January 1, 2002, in no case shall the budget neu-
 8 trality adjustment provided for in the previous sentence
 9 result in a reduction of the payment amount that would
 10 otherwise be made under this subparagraph but for such
 11 adjustment.”.

12 **SEC. 3. INCREASE IN BASELINE OF NATIONAL PER CAPITA**
 13 **MEDICARE+CHOICE GROWTH PERCENTAGE**
 14 **FOR YEARS AFTER 2001.**

15 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1853(c)(6)(B) of the So-
 16 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-23(c)(6)(B)) is
 17 amended—

18 (1) in clause (i), by striking “0.8 percentage
 19 points” and inserting “0 percentage points”; and

20 (2) in clause (ii), by striking “0.5 percentage
 21 points” and inserting “0 percentage points”.

22 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
 23 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payment rates
 24 calculated for months beginning on or after January 1,
 25 2002.