

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2045

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental, vision, and hearing care under the Medicare program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2025

Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. ANSARI, Ms. BALINT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BISHOP, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASAR, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. DEXTER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. FIELDS, Ms. FRIEDMAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA of California, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. LIEU, Ms. MCBRIDE, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. POU, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SALINAS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SOTO, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mrs. MCIVER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. GOMEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subse-

quently 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 coverage of dental, vision, and hearing care under the Medicare program.

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 Dental, Vi-
 5 sion, and Hearing Benefit Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH CARE.**

7 (a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-
 8 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)) is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (II), by striking “and”
 10 after the semicolon at the end;

11 (2) in subparagraph (JJ), by adding “and”
 12 after the semicolon at the end; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 14 paragraph:

15 “(KK) dental and oral health services (as de-
 16 fined in subsection (nnn));”.

17 (b) DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH SERVICES DE-
 18 FINED.—Section 1861 of the Social Security Act (42

1 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 2 lowing new subsection:

3 “Dental and Oral Health Services

4 “(nnn) The term ‘dental and oral health services’
 5 means—

6 “(1) preventative and screening services, such
 7 as oral exams, dental cleanings, dental x-rays, and
 8 fluoride treatments;

9 “(2) basic dental services, such as tooth res-
 10 torations, basic periodontics services, tooth extrac-
 11 tions, and oral disease management services;

12 “(3) major dental services, such as major tooth
 13 restorations, major periodontics services, bridges,
 14 crowns, root canals, and extractions;

15 “(4) emergency dental care; and

16 “(5) other necessary services related to dental
 17 or oral health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

18 (c) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the
 20 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)) is
 21 amended—

22 (A) by striking “and” before “(GG)”; and

23 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at
 24 the end the following: “, and (HH) with respect
 25 to dental and oral health services (as defined in

1 section 1861(lll)), the amount paid shall be the
2 payment amount specified under section
3 1834(aa)”.

4 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section
5 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m)
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new
7 subsection:

8 “(aa) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR DENTAL AND ORAL
9 HEALTH SERVICES.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
11 under this part for dental and oral health services
12 (as defined in section 1861(nnn)) shall be, subject to
13 paragraph (3), the applicable percent (specified in
14 paragraph (2)) of the lesser of the actual charge for
15 the services or the amount determined under the
16 payment basis determined under section 1848.

17 “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of para-
19 graph (1), except as provided in subparagraph
20 (B), the applicable percent specified in this
21 paragraph is—

22 “(i) with respect to services described
23 in section 1861(nnn)(1) furnished during
24 2026 or a subsequent year, 100 percent;
25 and

1 “(ii) with respect to services not de-
2 scribed in clause (i)—

3 “(I) for a year before 2027, 0
4 percent;

5 “(II) for 2027, 30 percent;

6 “(III) for 2028, 60 percent; and

7 “(IV) for 2029 and each subse-
8 quent year, 80 percent.

9 “(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN LOW-IN-
10 COME INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of para-
11 graph (1), the applicable percent specified in
12 this paragraph is, with respect to services fur-
13 nished to an individual who is a subsidy eligible
14 individual (as defined in section 1860D–
15 14(a)(3)), or who would be a subsidy eligible in-
16 dividual if the individual were enrolled in a pre-
17 scription drug plan or MA–PD plan—

18 “(i) with respect to services described
19 in section 1861(nnn)(1), for 2026 and
20 each subsequent year, 100 percent; and

21 “(ii) with respect to services not de-
22 scribed in clause (i), for 2027 and each
23 subsequent year, 80 percent.

24 “(3) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AUTHOR-
25 ITY.—

1 “(A) FREQUENCY.—With respect to dental
2 and oral health services that are—

3 “(i) routine dental cleanings, payment
4 may be made under this part for only two
5 such cleanings during a 12-month period;
6 and

7 “(ii) routine exams, payment may be
8 made under this part for only two such
9 exams during a 12-month period.

10 “(B) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

11 “(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-
12 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may
13 apply such other reasonable limitations on
14 the extent to which dental and oral services
15 are covered under this part, including
16 through application of a prior authoriza-
17 tion requirement.

18 “(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COV-
19 ERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
20 sion of this title, if the Secretary deter-
21 mines appropriate, the Secretary may mod-
22 ify the coverage under this part of dental
23 and oral health services to the extent that
24 such modification is consistent with the

1 recommendations of the United States Pre-
 2 ventive Services Task Force.

3 “(iii) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE FRE-
 4 QUENCY LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding
 5 subparagraph (A), the Secretary may
 6 waive any frequency limitation under such
 7 subparagraph for an individual (or cat-
 8 egory of individuals) if determined appro-
 9 priate by the Secretary.”.

10 (d) PAYMENT UNDER PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE.—
 11 Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 12 1395w-4(j)(3)) is amended by inserting “(2)(KK),” be-
 13 fore “(3)”.

14 (e) DENTURES.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(s)(8) of the
 16 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(8)) is
 17 amended—

18 (A) by striking “(other than dental)” and
 19 inserting “(including dentures)”; and

20 (B) by striking “internal body”.

21 (2) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES.—Section
 22 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
 23 1395m(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 24 lowing new paragraph:

25 “(23) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR DENTURES.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
 2 under this part for dentures shall be, subject to
 3 subparagraph (C), the applicable percent (speci-
 4 fied in subparagraph (B)) of the amount other-
 5 wise payable for such dentures under this sec-
 6 tion.

7 “(B) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For pur-
 8 poses of subparagraph (A), the applicable per-
 9 cent specified in this subparagraph is—

10 “(i) for a year before 2027, 0 percent;

11 and

12 “(ii) for 2027 and each subsequent
 13 year, 80 percent.

14 “(C) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-
 15 THORITY.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Payment may be
 17 made under this part for an individual
 18 for—

19 “(I) not more than one full upper
 20 and one full lower denture once every
 21 five years; and

22 “(II) not more than one partial
 23 upper denture and one partial lower
 24 denture once every five years.

25 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

1 “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-
2 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary
3 may apply such other reasonable limi-
4 tations on the extent to which den-
5 tures are covered under this part, in-
6 cluding through application of a prior
7 authorization requirement.

8 “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY
9 COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any
10 other provision of this title, if the Sec-
11 retary determines appropriate, the
12 Secretary may modify the coverage
13 under this part of dentures to the ex-
14 tent that such modification is con-
15 sistent with the recommendations of
16 the United States Preventive Services
17 Task Force.

18 “(III) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE
19 FREQUENCY LIMITATIONS.—Notwith-
20 standing clause (i), the Secretary may
21 waive any frequency limitation under
22 such clause for an individual (or cat-
23 egory of individuals) if determined ap-
24 propriate by the Secretary.”.

1 (f) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—Section
 2 1862(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y) is
 3 amended by striking paragraph (12).

4 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 5 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after
 6 January 1, 2026.

7 **SEC. 3. VISION CARE.**

8 (a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-
 9 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)), as amended by section
 10 2, is further amended—

11 (1) in subparagraph (JJ), by striking “and”
 12 after the semicolon at the end;

13 (2) in subparagraph (KK), by adding “and”
 14 after the semicolon at the end; and

15 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 16 paragraph:

17 “(LL) vision services (as defined in subsection
 18 (ooo));”.

19 (b) VISION SERVICES DEFINED.—Section 1861 of
 20 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x), as amended
 21 by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the
 22 following new subsection:

23 “Vision Services

24 “(ooo) The term ‘vision services’ means—

1 “(1) routine eye examinations and procedures
 2 performed (during the course of any eye examina-
 3 tion) to determine the refractive state of the eyes;
 4 and

5 “(2) other necessary services related to eye and
 6 vision health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

7 (c) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the
 9 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)), as
 10 amended by section 2, is further amended—

11 (A) by striking “and” before “(HH)”; and

12 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at
 13 the end the following: “, and (II) with respect
 14 to vision services (as defined in section
 15 1861(mmm)), the amount paid shall be the
 16 payment amount specified under section
 17 1834(bb)”.

18 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section
 19 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m),
 20 as amended by section 2, is further amended by add-
 21 ing at the end the following new subsection:

22 “(bb) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR VISION SERV-
 23 ICES.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
 25 under this part for vision services (as defined in sec-

tion 1861(ooo)) shall be, subject to paragraph (2), 80 percent of the lesser of the actual charge for the services or the amount determined under the payment basis determined under section 1848.

“(2) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

“(A) FREQUENCY.—With respect to routine eye exams, payment may be made under this part for only one such exam during a 12-month period.

“(B) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

“(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may apply other reasonable limitations on the extent to which vision services are covered under this part, including through application of a prior authorization requirement.

“(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, if the Secretary determines appropriate, the Secretary may modify the coverage under this part of vision services to the extent that such modification is consistent with the recommenda-

tions of the United States Preventive Services Task Force.

“(iii) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE FREQUENCY LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary may waive any frequency limitation under such subparagraph for an individual (or category of individuals) if determined appropriate by the Secretary.”.

(d) PAYMENT UNDER PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE.—Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(j)(3)) is amended by inserting “(2)(LL),” after “(2)(KK),” (as added by section 2).

(e) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES FOR EYEGLASSES, CONTACT LENSES, AND LOW VISION DEVICES.—Section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)), as amended by section 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(24) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR EYEGLASSES AND CONTACT LENSES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount under this part for eyeglass lenses, eyeglass frames, and contact lenses shall be, subject to subparagraph (B), 80 percent of the amount otherwise payable for such eyeglass lenses, eye-

1 glass frames, and contact lenses, respectively,
2 under this section.

3 “(B) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-
4 THORITY.—

5 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
6 (iii), payment may be made under this part
7 (other than for eyewear described in sec-
8 tion 1861(s)(8)) for an individual for—

9 “(I) not more than one pair of
10 eyeglass lenses during any 12-month
11 period in an amount not exceeding
12 \$100;

13 “(II) not more than one set of
14 eyeglass frames during any 24-month
15 period in an amount not exceeding
16 \$100; and

17 “(III) contact lenses, only to the
18 extent that the sum of such payments
19 for contact lenses does not exceed a
20 limitation of \$200 during any 24-
21 month period beginning during the
22 first year beginning at least six
23 months after the date of the enact-
24 ment of this paragraph (or, beginning
25 during a subsequent year, such limita-

1 tion for a 24-month period beginning
2 in the previous year increase by an
3 appropriate inflation adjustment spec-
4 ified by the Secretary).

5 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

6 “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-
7 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary
8 may apply such other reasonable limi-
9 tations on the extent to which eye-
10 glass lenses, eyeglass frames, and con-
11 tact lenses are covered under this
12 part, including through application of
13 a prior authorization requirement.

14 “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY
15 COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any
16 other provision of this title, if the Sec-
17 retary determines appropriate, the
18 Secretary may modify the coverage
19 under this part of eyeglass lenses, eye-
20 glass frames, and contact lenses to
21 the extent that such modification is
22 consistent with the recommendations
23 of the United States Preventive Serv-
24 ices Task Force.

1 “(III) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE
2 FREQUENCY LIMITATIONS.—Notwith-
3 standing clause (i), the Secretary may
4 waive any frequency limitation under
5 such clause for an individual (or cat-
6 egory of individuals) if determined ap-
7 propriate by the Secretary.

8 “(iii) UPDATE OF PAYMENT LIMITS
9 TO ACCOUNT FOR INFLATION.—With re-
10 spect to eyeglass lenses and contact lenses
11 furnished during 2027 or a subsequent
12 year, the Secretary shall increase the dollar
13 amounts in effect under this subparagraph
14 for such year by the percentage change in
15 the consumer price index for all urban con-
16 sumers (United States city average) for
17 the 12-month period ending with June of
18 the previous year.

19 “(25) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR LOW VISION
20 DEVICES.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
22 under this part for low vision devices shall be
23 80 percent of the amount otherwise payable for
24 low vision devices under this section.

25 “(B) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

1 “(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY LIMITA-
2 TIONS.—The Secretary may apply reason-
3 able limitations on the extent to which low
4 vision devices are covered under this part,
5 including through application of a prior
6 authorization requirement.

7 “(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COV-
8 ERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
9 sion of this title, if the Secretary deter-
10 mines appropriate, the Secretary may mod-
11 ify the coverage under this part of low vi-
12 sion devices to the extent that such modi-
13 fication is consistent with the recommenda-
14 tions of the United States Preventive Serv-
15 ices Task Force.

16 “(C) LOW VISION DEVICE DEFINED.—In
17 this paragraph, the term ‘low vision device’
18 means a device, prescribed by a physician, that
19 magnifies, enhances, or otherwise augments or
20 interprets visual images irrespective of the size,
21 form, or technological features of such device
22 and does not include ordinary eyeglasses or con-
23 tact lenses. In the previous sentence, the term
24 ‘ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses’ means

1 lenses that are intended to fully correct visual
2 acuity or fully eliminate refractive error.”.

3 (f) DEFINITION OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
4 TO INCLUDE EYEGLASSES, CONTACT LENSES, AND LOW
5 VISION DEVICES.—Section 1861(n) of the Social Security
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “and” before “eye tracking” and
8 inserting a comma; and

9 (2) by inserting “, and eyeglass lenses, low vi-
10 sion devices (as defined in section 1834(a)(25)), eye-
11 glass frames, and contact lenses” before “; except”.

12 (g) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—Section
13 1862(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
14 1395y(a)(7)) is amended by striking “, eyeglasses (other
15 than eyewear described in section 1861(s)(8)) or eye ex-
16 aminations for the purpose of prescribing, fitting, or
17 changing eyeglasses, procedures performed (during the
18 course of any eye examination) to determine the refractive
19 state of the eyes”.

20 (h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
21 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after
22 January 1, 2026.

23 **SEC. 4. HEARING CARE.**

24 (a) COVERAGE.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the
2 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)), as
3 amended by sections 2 and 3, is further amended—

4 (A) in subparagraph (KK), by striking
5 “and” at the end;

6 (B) in subparagraph (LL), by inserting
7 “and” at the end; and

8 (C) by adding at the end the following new
9 subparagraph:

10 “(MM) audiology services (as defined in sub-
11 section (ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined in
12 subsection (ll)(5));”.

13 (2) HEARING SERVICES DEFINED.—Section
14 1861(ll) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
15 1395x(ll)) is amended—

16 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting
17 “; HEARING SERVICES” after “AUDIOLOGY
18 SERVICES”; and

19 (B) by adding at the end the following new
20 paragraph:

21 “(5) The term ‘hearing services’ means—

22 “(A) routine hearing exams and exams for
23 hearing aids; and

24 “(B) other necessary services related to hearing
25 health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

1 (b) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the
3 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)), as
4 amended by sections 2 and 3, is further amended—

5 (A) by striking “and” before “(II)”; and

6 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at
7 the end the following: “, and (JJ) with respect
8 to audiology services (as defined in section
9 1861(ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined in
10 section 1861(ll)(5)), the amount paid shall be
11 the payment amount specified under section
12 1834(cc)”.

13 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section
14 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m),
15 as amended by sections 2 and 3, is further amended
16 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

17 “(cc) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR HEARING SERV-
18 ICES.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
20 under this part for audiology services (as defined in
21 section 1861(ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined
22 in section 1861(ll)(5)), shall be, subject to para-
23 graph (2), 80 percent of the lesser of the actual
24 charge for the services or the amount determined

1 under the payment basis determined under section
2 1848.

3 “(2) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

4 “(A) AUTHORITY TO APPLY LIMITA-
5 TIONS.—The Secretary may apply reasonable
6 limitations on the extent to which audiology
7 services and hearing services are covered under
8 this part, including through application of a
9 prior authorization requirement.

10 “(B) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COVERAGE.—
11 Notwithstanding any other provision of this
12 title, if the Secretary determines appropriate,
13 the Secretary may modify the coverage under
14 this part of audiology services and hearing serv-
15 ices to the extent that such modification is con-
16 sistent with the recommendations of the United
17 States Preventive Services Task Force.”.

18 (c) PAYMENT UNDER THE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHED-
19 ULE.—Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42
20 U.S.C. 1395w-4(j)(3)), as amended by section 2(d), is
21 further amended by inserting “(2)(MM),” before “(3)”.

22 (d) HEARING AIDS.—

23 (1) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—

24 Section 1862(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42
25 U.S.C. 1395y(a)(7)), as amended by section 3(g), is

1 further amended by striking “, hearing aids or ex-
2 aminations therefor,”.

3 (2) DEFINITION OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIP-
4 MENT TO INCLUDE HEARING AIDS.—Section 1861(n)
5 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)), as
6 amended by section 3, is further amended by insert-
7 ing “hearing aids,” before “and eyeglass lenses”.

8 (3) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES FOR HEARING
9 AIDS.—Section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act
10 (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)), as amended by sections 2
11 and 3, is further amended by adding at the end the
12 following new paragraph:

13 “(26) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR HEARING
14 AIDS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount
16 under this part for hearing aids shall be, sub-
17 ject to subparagraph (B), 80 percent of the
18 amount otherwise payable for hearing aids
19 under this section.

20 “(B) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-
21 THORITY.—

22 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Payment may be
23 made under this part for an individual for
24 not more than one hearing aid per ear dur-
25 ing a 48-month period.

1 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

2 “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-
3 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary
4 may apply additional limitations on
5 the extent to which hearing aids are
6 covered under this part, including
7 through application of a prior author-
8 ization requirement and through ap-
9 plication of criteria for a minimum
10 level of hearing loss for coverage of an
11 initial or replacement hearing aid.

12 “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY
13 COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any
14 other provision of this title, if the Sec-
15 retary determines appropriate, the
16 Secretary may modify the coverage
17 under this part of hearing aids to the
18 extent that such modification is con-
19 sistent with the recommendations of
20 the United States Preventive Services
21 Task Force.

22 “(iii) AUTHORITY TO WAIVE FRE-
23 QUENCY LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding
24 clause (i), the Secretary may waive any
25 frequency limitation under such clause for

1 an individual (or category of individuals) if
2 determined appropriate by the Secretary.”.

3 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
4 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after
5 January 1, 2026.

6 **SEC. 5. NONAPPLICATION OF COMPETITIVE ACQUISITION**
7 **TO CERTAIN ITEMS.**

8 Section 1847(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 1395w–3(a)(2)) is amended—

10 (1) by striking “and excluding” and inserting
11 “excluding”; and

12 (2) by inserting “, and excluding dentures, eye-
13 glass lenses, contact lenses, and hearing aids” before
14 the period at the end.

15 **SEC. 6. INCLUSION OF AN ORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL**
16 **ON THE UNITED STATES PREVENTIVE SERV-**
17 **ICES TASK FORCE.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The first sentence of section
19 915(a)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
20 299b–4(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “, including at
21 least 1 oral health professional” before the period at the
22 end.

23 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
24 subsection (a) shall apply beginning on January 1 of the

- 1 first year beginning at least 6 months after the date of
- 2 the enactment of this Act.

