

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2092

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a task force to improve access to health care information technology for non-English speakers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2025

Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. EVANS of Colorado, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PETTERSEN, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VALADAO, and Mrs. KIM) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a task force to improve access to health care information technology for non-English speakers.

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 “Supporting Patient
5 Education And Knowledge Act of 2025” or the “SPEAK
6 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. GUIDANCE ON FURNISHING SERVICES VIA TELE-**
2 **HEALTH TO INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED**
3 **ENGLISH PROFICIENCY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of
6 Health and Human Services, in consultation with 1 or
7 more entities from each of the categories described in
8 paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b), shall issue
9 and disseminate, or update and revise as applicable, guid-
10 ance for the entities described in such subsection on the
11 following:

12 (1) Best practices on facilitating and inte-
13 grating use of interpreters during a telemedicine ap-
14 pointment.

15 (2) Best practices on providing accessible in-
16 structions on how to access telecommunications sys-
17 tems (as such term is used for purposes of section
18 1834(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
19 1395m(m)) for individuals with limited English pro-
20 ficiency.

21 (3) Best practices on improving access to dig-
22 ital patient portals for individuals with limited
23 English proficiency.

24 (4) Best practices on integrating the use of
25 video platforms that enable multi-person video calls
26 furnished via a telecommunications system for pur-

poses of providing interpretation during a telemedicine appointment for an individual with limited English proficiency.

(5) Best practices for providing patient materials, communications, and instructions in multiple languages, including text message appointment reminders and prescription information.

(b) ENTITIES DESCRIBED.—For purposes of subsection (a), an entity described in this subsection is an entity in 1 or more of the following categories:

(1) Health information technology service providers, including—

(A) electronic medical record companies;

(B) remote patient monitoring companies;

and

(C) telehealth or mobile health vendors and companies.

(2) Health care providers, including—

(A) physicians; and

(B) hospitals.

(3) Health insurers.

(4) Language service companies.

(5) Interpreter or translator professional associations.

1 (6) Health and language services quality certifi-
2 cation organizations.

3 (7) Patient and consumer advocates, including
4 such advocates that work with individuals with lim-
5 ited English proficiency.

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