

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7096

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate approval for certain skilled nursing facility and nursing facility nursing aide training and competency evaluation programs under the Medicare and Medicaid program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15, 2026

Mr. ESTES (for himself and Mr. HARDER of California) 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 titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate approval for certain skilled nursing facility and nursing facility nursing aide training and competency evaluation programs under the Medicare and Medicaid 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 “Ensuring Seniors’ Ac-
5 cess to Quality Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENSURING APPROPRIATE APPROVAL FOR CERTAIN**
2 **SKILLED NURSING FACILITY AND NURSING**
3 **FACILITY NURSING AIDE TRAINING AND**
4 **COMPETENCY EVALUATION PROGRAMS**
5 **UNDER THE MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PRO-**
6 **GRAM.**

7 (a) **MEDICARE.**—Section 1819(f)(2) of the Social Se-
8 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–3(f)(2)) is amended—

9 (1) in subparagraph (B)(iii)—

10 (A) in the matter preceding subclause (I),
11 by striking “subparagraphs (C) and (D)” and
12 inserting “subparagraph (C)”; and

13 (B) in subclause (I)—

14 (i) in item (b), by striking “or” at the
15 end;

16 (ii) by amending item (c) to read as
17 follows:

18 “(c) has been assessed a
19 civil money penalty described in
20 subsection (h)(2)(B)(ii) or sec-
21 tion 1919(h)(2)(A)(ii) of not less
22 than \$12,924 and has been cited
23 for a deficiency relating to the
24 quality of care provided to resi-
25 dents of the facility; or”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing new item:

3 “(d) has been subject to a
4 remedy described in clause (i) or
5 (iii) of subsection (h)(2)(B), sub-
6 section (h)(4), section
7 1919(h)(1)(B)(i), or in clause (i),
8 (iii), or (iv) of section
9 1919(h)(2)(A), or”; and

10 (2) by striking subparagraph (D).

11 (b) MEDICAID.—Section 1919(f)(2) of the Social Se-
12 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r(f)(2)) is amended—

13 (1) in subparagraph (B)(iii)—

14 (A) in the matter preceding subclause (I),
15 by striking “subparagraphs (C) and (D)” and
16 inserting “subparagraph (C)”; and

17 (B) in subclause (I)—

18 (i) in item (b), by striking “or” at the
19 end;

20 (ii) by amending item (c) to read as
21 follows:

22 “(c) has been assessed a
23 civil money penalty described in
24 subsection (h)(2)(A)(ii) or section
25 1819(h)(2)(B)(ii) of not less than

1 \$12,924 and has been cited for a
2 deficiency relating to the quality
3 of care provided to residents of
4 the facility; or”; and

5 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new item:

7 “(d) has been subject to a
8 remedy described in subsection
9 (h)(1)(B)(i), clauses (i), (iii), or
10 (iv) of subsection (h)(2)(A),
11 clauses (i) or (iii) of section
12 1819(h)(2)(B), or section
13 1819(h)(4), or”; and

14 (2) by striking subparagraph (D).

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