

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1692

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify data collection requirements for appropriate use criteria for applicable imaging services, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2025

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify data collection requirements for appropriate use criteria for applicable imaging services, and for other purposes.

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 “Radiology Outpatient  
5 Ordering Transmission (ROOT) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE USE CRITERIA**  
2 **DATA COLLECTION FOR APPLICABLE IMAG-**  
3 **ING SERVICES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1834(q) of the Social Se-  
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(q)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (3)(B)(ii)—

7 (A) in subclause (IV), by striking “gen-  
8 erates and provides to the ordering professional  
9 a certification or documentation that”; and

10 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
11 subclause:

12 “(VIII) Beginning with January  
13 1, 2026, the mechanism provides to  
14 the Secretary—

15 “(aa) the information de-  
16 scribed in subclauses (III) and  
17 (IV);

18 “(bb) the information de-  
19 scribed in paragraph (4)(B); and

20 “(cc) such other information  
21 as the Secretary determines to be  
22 appropriate, at such time, and in  
23 such form and manner, as the  
24 Secretary may specify.”;

25 (2) in paragraph (4)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
2 clause (ii) and inserting the following:

3 “(ii) beginning January 1, 2026, com-  
4 ply with such requirements as the Sec-  
5 retary may establish.”;

6 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

7 (i) in the heading, by striking “FUR-  
8 NISHING PROFESSIONAL” and inserting  
9 “QUALIFIED CLINICAL DECISION SUPPORT  
10 MECHANISM”;

11 (ii) in the matter preceding clause  
12 (i)—

13 (I) by striking “January 1,  
14 2017” and inserting “January 1,  
15 2026”; and

16 (II) by striking “payment for  
17 such service may only be made if the  
18 claim for the service includes” and in-  
19 serting “the qualified decision support  
20 mechanism shall maintain and report  
21 to the Secretary under subparagraph  
22 (F)”;

23 (iii) in clause (iii), by striking “(if dif-  
24 ferent from the furnishing professional)”;

1 (C) in subparagraph (C), by adding at the  
2 end the following new clauses:

3 “(iv) CLINICAL TRIALS.—An applica-  
4 ble imaging service that is ordered for an  
5 individual as part of a clinical trial.

6 “(v) SMALL AND RURAL PRAC-  
7 TICES.—An applicable imaging service or-  
8 dered by an ordering professional prac-  
9 ticing in a small practice (consisting of 15  
10 or fewer ordering professionals), or a prac-  
11 tice in a health professional shortage area  
12 (as designated under section 332(a)(1)(A)  
13 of the Public Health Service Act) located  
14 in a rural area.

15 “(vi) SPECIFIED EXEMPTIONS.—The  
16 following types of applicable imaging serv-  
17 ices:

18 “(I) A mammography.

19 “(II) A lung cancer screening  
20 performed using computed tomog-  
21 raphy.

22 “(III) A colonography performed  
23 using computed tomography.

1                   “(IV) Such other preventive or  
2                   screening imaging services as the Sec-  
3                   retary determines appropriate.”;

4                   (D) in subparagraph (D), by adding at the  
5                   end the following new clause:

6                   “(iv) Any other payment system de-  
7                   termined appropriate by the Secretary.”;

8                   and

9                   (E) by adding at the end the following new  
10                  subparagraphs:

11                  “(E) FURNISHING PROFESSIONAL RE-  
12                  QUIREMENT.—Beginning January 1, 2026, with  
13                  respect to an applicable imaging service fur-  
14                  nished in an applicable setting and paid for  
15                  under an applicable payment system (as defined  
16                  in subparagraph (D)), the furnishing profes-  
17                  sional shall include the national provider identi-  
18                  fier of the ordering professional (if different  
19                  from the furnishing professional) on the claim  
20                  for the service.

21                  “(F) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The  
22                  Secretary shall provide, through guidance or  
23                  rulemaking, information on appropriate ways  
24                  that each qualified clinical decision support  
25                  mechanism may report the information main-

1 tained under subparagraph (B) to the Secretary  
2 to support the Secretary in implementing para-  
3 graphs (5) and (6).”;

4 (3) in paragraph (5)—

5 (A) in the heading, by striking “OUTLIER”  
6 and inserting “LOW COMPLIANT”;

7 (B) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B)  
8 and inserting the following:

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to appli-  
10 cable imaging services furnished on or after  
11 January 1, 2026, the Secretary shall determine  
12 on an annual basis the total number of ordering  
13 professionals who are designated as low compli-  
14 ant ordering professionals under subparagraph  
15 (B).

16 “(B) LOW COMPLIANT ORDERING PROFES-  
17 SIONALS.—The Secretary shall designate order-  
18 ing professionals with a compliance rate (as de-  
19 termined under subparagraph (D)) lower than  
20 an amount determined by the Secretary as low  
21 compliant ordering professionals.”;

22 (C) in paragraph (C), by striking “outlier”  
23 and inserting “low compliant”;

24 (D) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
25 serting the following:

1                   “(D) DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE  
2                   RATE.—

3                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—

4                   “ (I) COMPLIANCE RATES.—For  
5                   applicable imaging services furnished  
6                   on or after January 1, 2026, the Sec-  
7                   retary shall determine a compliance  
8                   rate (as defined in clause (ii)) for  
9                   each ordering professional for a period  
10                  specified by the Secretary.

11                  “(II) USE OF DATA.—In deter-  
12                  mining a compliance rate for an or-  
13                  dering professional under subclause  
14                  (I), the Secretary shall use data made  
15                  available to the Secretary by qualified  
16                  clinical decision support mechanisms  
17                  published in the list under paragraph  
18                  (3)(C) that were consulted by the or-  
19                  dering professional for the period  
20                  specified by the Secretary under sub-  
21                  clause (I).

22                  “(ii) DEFINITION OF COMPLIANCE  
23                  RATE.—

24                  “(I) IN GENERAL.—In this sub-  
25                  paragraph, the term ‘compliance rate’

1 means, with respect to the require-  
2 ment that an ordering professional  
3 consult with a qualified decision sup-  
4 port mechanism when ordering an ap-  
5 plicable imaging service under para-  
6 graph (4)(A)(i), the ratio (expressed  
7 as a percentage) of—

8 “(aa) the number of claims  
9 for orders for an applicable imag-  
10 ing service from such ordering  
11 professional during the period  
12 specified by the Secretary under  
13 clause (i)(I) that provided the  
14 qualified decision support mecha-  
15 nism consulted by such ordering  
16 professional; and

17 “(bb) the total number of  
18 orders for an applicable imaging  
19 service from such ordering pro-  
20 fessional during such period.

21 “(II) EXCLUSION OF EXCEPTED  
22 ORDERS.—In calculating the compli-  
23 ance rate for an ordering professional  
24 under subclause (I), the Secretary  
25 shall exclude from the total number of

1 orders in item (bb) of such subclause  
2 any order for an applicable imaging  
3 service described in paragraph  
4 (4)(C).”; and

5 (E) in subparagraph (E), by striking  
6 “outlier” and inserting “low compliant”;

7 (4) by striking paragraph (6) and inserting the  
8 following:

9 “(6) STUDY AND REPORT ON LOW COMPLIANT  
10 ORDERING PROFESSIONALS AND UTILIZATION OF AP-  
11 PPLICABLE IMAGING SERVICES.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than Janu-  
13 ary 1, 2031, and every 5 years thereafter, the  
14 Secretary shall conduct a study regarding the  
15 compliance rates calculated under paragraph  
16 (5) and submit a report to Congress that—

17 “(i) discusses—

18 “(I) such rates and compliance  
19 with this subsection;

20 “(II) the impact this subsection  
21 has on the utilization of applicable im-  
22 aging services; and

23 “(III) potential mechanisms for  
24 improving compliance with this sub-  
25 section, including—

1                   “(aa) prior authorization for  
2 applicable imaging services or-  
3 dered by low compliant ordering  
4 professionals;

5                   “(bb) any payment adjust-  
6 ment related to the services, or a  
7 subset of services, that the Sec-  
8 retary may designate under the  
9 fee schedule under section 1848;  
10 or

11                   “(cc) other mechanisms de-  
12 termined appropriate by the Sec-  
13 retary; and

14                   “(ii) proposes alternative compliance  
15 rate thresholds for low compliant ordering  
16 professionals for purposes of paragraph  
17 (5)(B).”; and

18                   (5) by adding at the end the following new  
19 paragraph:

20                   “(8) SPECIALTY SOCIETY ENDORSEMENT.—In  
21 specifying applicable appropriate use criteria for ap-  
22 plicable imaging services under paragraph (2) and  
23 qualified clinical decision support mechanisms under  
24 paragraph (3), the Secretary shall substantially ad-  
25 here to the approach described in section 414.94 of

1 title 42, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on  
2 January 1, 2023).”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
4 subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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