

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2612

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to include physical therapists and occupational therapists as health professionals for purposes of the annual wellness visit under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2025

Mr. JUSTICE 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 include physical therapists and occupational therapists as health professionals for purposes of the annual wellness visit under the Medicare program, 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 “Stopping Addiction  
5       and Falls for the Elderly Act” or the “SAFE Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PHYSICAL THERAPY AND OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**  
 2 **BENEFIT IN THE MEDICARE ANNUAL**  
 3 **WELLNESS VISIT AND INITIAL PREVENTIVE**  
 4 **PHYSICAL EXAM.**

5 (a) ANNUAL WELLNESS VISIT.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(hhh) of the  
 7 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hhh)) is  
 8 amended—

9 (A) in paragraph (1)—

10 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;  
 11 and” and inserting a semicolon;

12 (ii) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by strik-  
 13 ing the period at the end and inserting “;  
 14 and”; and

15 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
 16 lowing new subparagraph:

17 “(C) that, in the case of an individual who has  
 18 been determined by a physician to have fallen in the  
 19 previous calendar year, includes a falls risk assess-  
 20 ment and fall prevention services.”; and

21 (B) in paragraph (3)—

22 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
 23 “or” at the end;

24 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
 25 the period at the end and inserting “; or”;  
 26 and

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

3 “(D) in the case of an individual described in  
 4 paragraph (1)(C), a physical therapist or an occupa-  
 5 tional therapist furnishing a separate falls risk as-  
 6 sessment and fall prevention services.”.

7 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made  
 8 by paragraph (1) shall apply to annual wellness vis-  
 9 its furnished on or after January 1, 2026.

10 (b) INITIAL PREVENTIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-  
 11 TION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(ww)(2) of the  
 13 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(ww)(2)) is  
 14 amended—

15 (A) in subparagraph (N), by moving the  
 16 margins of such subparagraph 2 ems to the  
 17 left;

18 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (O) as  
 19 subparagraph (P); and

20 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (N)  
 21 the following new subparagraph:

22 “(O) In the case of an individual that has been  
 23 determined by a physician to have experienced a fall  
 24 in the previous calendar year, outpatient occupa-  
 25 tional therapy services (as defined in subsection (g))

1       and outpatient physical therapy services (as defined  
2       in subsection (p)).”.

3           (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made  
4       by paragraph (1) shall apply to initial preventive  
5       physical examinations furnished on or after January  
6       1, 2026.

7       **SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

8       Beginning January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter,  
9       the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit  
10      to Congress a report on the number of falls (as reported  
11      by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) experi-  
12      enced by individuals aged 65 and older that received treat-  
13      ment for pain or injury related to a fall or falls experi-  
14      enced in the previous calendar year. With respect to each  
15      subsequent report, such Secretary shall include the data  
16      reported in previous years and describe any changes from  
17      year to year.

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