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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PAYNE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

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 “Removing Barriers to
5 Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Colorectal cancer is the second leading
2 cause of cancer death among men and women com-
3 bined in the United States.

4 (2) In 2019, more than 145,600 Americans will
5 be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approxi-
6 mately 51,000 Americans will die from it.

7 (3) Approximately 60 percent of colorectal can-
8 cer cases and 70 percent of deaths occur in those
9 aged 65 and older.

10 (4) Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy al-
11 lows for the detection and removal of polyps, or ab-
12 normal growths, that could become cancerous, as
13 well as for the early detection of colorectal cancer
14 when treatment can be most effective.

15 (5) Although colorectal cancer is largely pre-
16 ventable, one in three adults over 50 years of age
17 are not up to date with recommended colorectal can-
18 cer screening.

19 (6) Over 1,700 organizations have committed to
20 eliminating colorectal cancer as a major public
21 health problem and are working toward the shared
22 goal of reaching 80 percent screened for colorectal
23 cancer in every community.

1 (7) Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy is a
2 highly effective preventive service, and removing fi-
3 nancial barriers can help to increase screening rates.

4 **SEC. 3. WAIVING MEDICARE COINSURANCE FOR**
5 **COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING TESTS.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1833(a)(1)(Y) of the So-
7 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(Y)) is amended
8 by inserting “, including a colorectal cancer screening test
9 (regardless of the code that is billed for the establishment
10 of a diagnosis as a result of the test, or for the removal
11 of tissue or other procedure that is furnished in connection
12 with, as a result of, and in the same clinical encounter
13 as the screening test),” after “section 1861(ddd)(3)”.

14 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
15 this section shall apply to items and services furnished
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act.