

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 497

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 2, 2017

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COONS, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. BLUNT, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

---

## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

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 “Lymphedema Treat-  
5 ment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICARE COVERAGE OF CERTAIN LYMPHEDEMA**  
2 **COMPRESSION TREATMENT ITEMS AS ITEMS**  
3 **OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861 of the Social Secu-  
5 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (n), in the first sentence, by  
7 inserting before the semicolon the following: “and in-  
8 cludes lymphedema compression treatment items (as  
9 defined in subsection (jjj))”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
11 section:

12 “Lymphedema Compression Treatment Items  
13 “(jjj) The term ‘lymphedema compression treatment  
14 items’—

15 “(1) means, with respect to an individual, com-  
16 pression garments, devices, bandaging systems, com-  
17 ponents, and supplies—

18 “(A) that are primarily and customarily  
19 used in the medical treatment of lymphedema;

20 “(B) as prescribed by a physician (or a  
21 physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or a  
22 clinical nurse specialist (as those terms are de-  
23 fined in section 1861(aa)(5)) to the extent au-  
24 thorized under State law); and

1           “(C) which would not, other than under  
2 subsection (s)(6), be included as medical and  
3 other health services under this title; and

4           “(2) includes—

5           “(A) multilayer compression bandaging  
6 systems;

7           “(B) custom or standard fit gradient com-  
8 pression garments;

9           “(C) non-elastic and low-elastic compres-  
10 sion garments and compression wraps and di-  
11 rectional flow pads; and

12           “(D) any other compression garments,  
13 bandaging systems, devices, and aids deter-  
14 mined by the Secretary to be effective in the  
15 prevention or treatment of lymphedema.”.

16       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
17 subsection (a) shall apply to lymphedema compression  
18 treatment items furnished on or after 180 days after the  
19 date of the enactment of this Act.

○