

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6616

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for vaccines and treatment for COVID–19 for uninsured individuals without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 24, 2020

Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself and Ms. SÁNCHEZ) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for vaccines and treatment for COVID–19 for uninsured individuals without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, 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 “Stronger Medicaid Re-
5 sponse to the COVID–19 Pandemic Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OPTIONAL COVERAGE AT NO COST SHARING OF**
2 **COVID-19 TREATMENT AND VACCINES UNDER**
3 **MEDICAID FOR UNINSURED INDIVIDUALS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a)(10) of the Social
5 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)) is amended, in the
6 matter following subparagraph (G), by striking “and any
7 visit described in section 1916(a)(2)(G)” and inserting the
8 following: “, any COVID-19 vaccine that is administered
9 during any such portion (and the administration of such
10 vaccine), any item or service that is furnished during any
11 such portion for the treatment of COVID-19 or a condi-
12 tion that may complicate the treatment of COVID-19,
13 and any services described in section 1916(a)(2)(G)”.

14 (b) DEFINITION OF UNINSURED INDIVIDUAL.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (ss) of section
16 1902 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a)
17 is amended to read as follows:

18 “(ss) UNINSURED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—For pur-
19 poses of this section, the term ‘uninsured individual’
20 means, notwithstanding any other provision of this title,
21 any individual who is not covered by minimum essential
22 coverage (as defined in section 5000A(f)(1) of the Internal
23 Revenue Code of 1986).”.

24 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made
25 by paragraph (1) shall take effect and apply as if in-

1 cluded in the enactment of the Families First
2 Coronavirus Response Act (Public Law 116–127).

3 (c) CLARIFICATION REGARDING EMERGENCY SERV-
4 ICES FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—Section 1903(v)(2) of
5 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(v)(2)) is amend-
6 ed by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

7 “For purposes of subparagraph (A), care and serv-
8 ices described in such subparagraph include any in
9 vitro diagnostic product described in section
10 1905(a)(3)(B) that is administered during any por-
11 tion of the emergency period described in such sec-
12 tion beginning on or after the date of the enactment
13 of this sentence (and the administration of such
14 product), any COVID–19 vaccine that is adminis-
15 tered during any such portion (and the administra-
16 tion of such vaccine), any item or service that is fur-
17 nished during any such portion for the treatment of
18 COVID–19 or a condition that may complicate the
19 treatment of COVID–19, and any services described
20 in section 1916(a)(2)(G).”.

21 (d) INCLUSION OF COVID–19 CONCERN AS AN
22 EMERGENCY CONDITION.—Section 1903(v)(3) of the So-
23 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(v)(3)) is amended by
24 adding at the end the following flush sentence:

1 “Such term includes any indication that an alien de-
2 scribed in paragraph (1) may have contracted
3 COVID-19.”.

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