# 115TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 3820

AUTHENTICATED U.S. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

> To permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

Mr. MEEHAN (for himself, Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. TONKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

# A BILL

- To permit occupational therapists to conduct the initial assessment visit and complete the comprehensive assessment under a Medicare home health plan of care for certain rehabilitation cases.
  - 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 "Medicare Home Health
- 5 Flexibility Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. PERMITTING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS TO CON DUCT THE INITIAL ASSESSMENT VISIT AND
 COMPLETE THE COMPREHENSIVE ASSESS MENT UNDER A MEDICARE HOME HEALTH
 PLAN OF CARE FOR CERTAIN REHABILITA TION CASES.

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 484.55(a)(2) or 484.55(b)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal 8 9 Regulations, or any other provision of law, an occupational therapist may be designated to conduct the initial assess-10 11 ment visit and to complete the comprehensive assessment for an individual who is eligible for home health services 12 under title XVIII of the Social Security Act if the referral 13 14 order by the physician—

- 15 (1) does not include skilled nursing care;
- 16 (2) includes occupation therapy; and
- 17 (3) includes physical therapy or speech lan-18 guage pathology.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to provide for initial eligibility for coverage of home health services under title
XVIII of the Social Security Act solely on the basis of
a need for occupational therapy.

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