

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1732

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to promote testing of incentive payments for behavioral health providers for adoption and use of certified electronic health record technology.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 3, 2017

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to promote testing of incentive payments for behavioral health providers for adoption and use of certified electronic health record technology.

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 “Improving Access to  
5 Behavioral Health Information Technology Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TESTING OF INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR BEHAV-**  
2 **IORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS FOR ADOPTION**  
3 **AND USE OF CERTIFIED ELECTRONIC**  
4 **HEALTH RECORD TECHNOLOGY.**

5 Section 1115A(b)(2)(B) of the Social Security Act  
6 (42 U.S.C. 1315a(b)(2)(B)) is amended by adding at the  
7 end the following new clause:

8 “(xxv) Providing incentive payments  
9 to behavioral health providers for the adop-  
10 tion and use of certified electronic health  
11 record technology (as defined in section  
12 1848(o)(4)) to improve the quality and co-  
13 ordination of care through the electronic  
14 documentation and exchange of health in-  
15 formation. Behavioral health providers may  
16 include—

17 “(I) public or private hospitals  
18 that are principally psychiatric hos-  
19 pitals (as defined in section 1861(f));

20 “(II) community mental health  
21 centers (as described in section  
22 1913(b)(2) of the Public Health Serv-  
23 ice Act (42 U.S.C. 300x–2(b)(2)));

24 “(III) accredited residential or  
25 outpatient mental health treatment  
26 facilities;

1 “(IV) accredited substance abuse  
2 treatment facilities;  
3 “(V) clinical psychologists (as de-  
4 fined in section 1861(ii)); and  
5 “(VI) clinical social workers (as  
6 defined in section 1861(hh)(1)).”.

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