

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1617

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS (for himself, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. SOTO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BOST, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MANN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare.

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 “Prevent Interruptions
5 in Physical Therapy Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. ALLOWING PHYSICAL THERAPISTS TO UTILIZE**
2 **LOCUM TENENS ARRANGEMENTS UNDER**
3 **MEDICARE.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The first sentence of section
5 1842(b)(6) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
6 1395u(b)(6)) is amended by striking “, and (J)” and all
7 that follows through “physicians’ services furnished by
8 physicians.” and inserting “, and (J) in the case of out-
9 patient physical therapy services furnished by physical
10 therapists, subparagraph (D) of this sentence shall apply
11 to such services and therapists in the same manner as
12 such subparagraph applies to physicians’ services fur-
13 nished by physicians.”.

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

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