

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8581

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2022

Ms. SEWELL (for herself and Mr. BUCHANAN) 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

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## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

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 “Preserving Access to  
5 Home Health Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENSURING STABILITY IN PAYMENTS TO HOME**  
2 **HEALTH AGENCIES.**

3 (a) **LIMITATION ON PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY**  
4 **ADJUSTMENTS.**—Section 1895(b)(3)(D) of the Social Se-  
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395fff(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

6 (1) in each of clauses (ii) and (iii), by striking  
7 “The Secretary shall” and inserting “Subject to  
8 clause (iv), the Secretary shall”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new  
10 clause:

11 “(iv) **SPECIAL RULES FOR DECREASES**  
12 **IN PAYMENTS.**—

13 “(I) **POSTPONEMENT.**—No per-  
14 manent decrease to the standard pro-  
15 spective payment amount (or  
16 amounts) for a year under clause (ii)  
17 and no temporary decrease to the pay-  
18 ment amount for a unit of home  
19 health services for a year under clause  
20 (iii) shall be made prior to 2026.

21 “(II) **SUNSET.**—Subject to sub-  
22 clause (I), the Secretary shall ensure  
23 that all necessary permanent or tem-  
24 porary decreases described in sub-  
25 clause (I) are made prior to 2032.”.

1           (b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Notwithstanding any other  
2 provision of law, the Secretary may implement the provi-  
3 sions of, and the amendments made by, this section by  
4 program instruction or otherwise.

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