

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the efficacy of providing Alzheimer’s Disease caregiver support services in delaying or reducing the use of institutionalized care for Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer’s Disease or a related dementia.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. STABENOW) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the efficacy of providing Alzheimer’s Disease caregiver support services in delaying or reducing the use of institutionalized care for Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer’s Disease or a related dementia.

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 “Alzheimer’s Bene-
5 ficiary and Caregiver Support Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TESTING OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID COVERAGE**
2 **OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE CAREGIVER SUP-**
3 **PORT SERVICES.**

4 Section 1115A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1315a) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

7 (A) in subparagraph (A), by adding at the
8 end the following new sentence: “The models
9 selected under this subparagraph shall include
10 the model described in subparagraph (D), which
11 shall be implemented by not later than the date
12 that is 1 year after the date of enactment of
13 such subparagraph.”; and

14 (B) by adding at the end the following new
15 subparagraph:

16 “(D) ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE CAREGIVER
17 SUPPORT SERVICES MODEL.—The model de-
18 scribed in this subparagraph is a model that
19 meets the requirements of subsection (h) with
20 respect to coverage of, and payment for, Alz-
21 heimer's Disease caregiver support services (as
22 defined in such subsection).”; and

23 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
24 section:

25 “(h) COVERAGE OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE CARE-
26 GIVER SUPPORT SERVICES.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the succeeding
2 provisions of this subsection, for the 3-year period
3 that begins on January 1, 2018, the Secretary shall
4 test the efficacy of coverage of, and payment for,
5 Alzheimer’s Disease caregiver support services (as
6 defined in paragraph (2)) under the applicable title,
7 in delaying or reducing the use of institutionalized
8 care for applicable Medicare beneficiaries (as defined
9 in paragraph (3)).

10 “(2) DEFINITION OF ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE
11 CAREGIVER SUPPORT SERVICES.—In this subsection,
12 the term ‘Alzheimer’s Disease caregiver support
13 services’ means the following services furnished by
14 an eligible professional (as defined in paragraph (3))
15 to a family caregiver (as defined in such paragraph)
16 of an applicable Medicare beneficiary (as defined in
17 such paragraph):

18 “(A) A defined set of counseling sessions
19 over a fixed period of time (as determined ap-
20 propriate by the Secretary), including a com-
21 prehensive baseline interview, two individual
22 counseling session, and four family counseling
23 sessions.

24 “(B) Following such defined set of coun-
25 seling sessions, a subsequent period (as deter-

1 mined appropriate by the Secretary) of follow-
2 up assessments, support group participation,
3 and ad hoc counseling or consultations to sup-
4 port the family caregiver as needs arise and the
5 health of the applicable Medicare beneficiary
6 changes.

7 “(3) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this sub-
8 section:

9 “(A) APPLICABLE MEDICARE BENE-
10 FICIARY.—The term ‘applicable Medicare bene-
11 ficiary’ means an individual—

12 “(i) who is entitled to benefits under
13 part A and enrolled under part B of title
14 XVIII who is not enrolled in a Medicare
15 Advantage plan under part C of such title,
16 an eligible organization under section
17 1876, or a PACE program under section
18 1894; and

19 “(ii) who has been diagnosed with
20 Alzheimer’s Disease or a related dementia.

21 “(B) ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONAL.—The term
22 ‘eligible professional’ means an individual
23 who—

24 “(i) is a clinical social worker (as de-
25 fined in section 1861(hh)(1)) or a nurse

1 practitioner (as defined in section
2 1861(aa)(5)(A)); and

3 “(ii) has undergone extensive online
4 training in the best practices for caregiver
5 intervention for patients who have been di-
6 agnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease or a re-
7 lated dementia.

8 “(C) FAMILY CAREGIVER.—The term ‘fam-
9 ily caregiver’ means, with respect to an applica-
10 ble Medicare beneficiary, a spouse, adult child,
11 or other family member of the applicable Medi-
12 care beneficiary who is part of the care team of
13 the applicable Medicare beneficiary and receives
14 no monetary compensation for their service as
15 part of the team.

16 “(4) PAYMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
17 payment amounts under this subsection for Alz-
18 heimer’s Disease caregiver support services.”.