

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital 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 “Rural Hospital Access
5 Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF THE MEDICARE-DEPENDENT HOS-**
2 **PITAL (MDH) PROGRAM.**

3 (a) **EXTENSION OF PAYMENT METHODOLOGY.**—Sec-
4 tion 1886(d)(5)(G) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
5 1395ww(d)(5)(G)) is amended—

6 (1) in clause (i), by striking “October 1, 2012”
7 and inserting “October 1, 2013”; and

8 (2) in clause (ii)(II), by striking “October 1,
9 2012” and inserting “October 1, 2013”.

10 (b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

11 (1) **EXTENSION OF TARGET AMOUNT.**—Section
12 1886(b)(3)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
13 1395ww(b)(3)(D)) is amended—

14 (A) in the matter preceding clause (i), by
15 striking “October 1, 2012” and inserting “Oc-
16 tober 1, 2013”; and

17 (B) in clause (iv), by striking “through fis-
18 cal year 2012” and inserting “through fiscal
19 year 2013”.

20 (2) **PERMITTING HOSPITALS TO DECLINE RE-**
21 **CLASSIFICATION.**—Section 13501(e)(2) of the Omni-
22 bus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C.
23 1395ww note) is amended by striking “through fis-
24 cal year 2012” and inserting “through fiscal year
25 2013”.

1 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF THE INCREASED PAYMENTS UNDER**
2 **THE MEDICARE LOW-VOLUME HOSPITAL**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 Section 1886(d)(12) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(12)) is amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (B), in the matter pre-
7 ceding clause (i), by striking “2013” and inserting
8 “2014”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “and
10 2012” each place it appears and inserting “, 2012,
11 and 2013”; and

12 (3) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and
13 2012” and inserting “, 2012, and 2013”.