

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) 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 improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

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 “Expanding Access to
5 Diabetes Self-Management Training Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING ACCESS TO DIABETES OUTPATIENT**
7 **SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING SERVICES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(qq) of the Social Se-
9 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(qq)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1)—

2 (A) by striking “the Secretary determines
3 appropriate” and inserting “specified in para-
4 graph (3)”;

5 (B) by inserting “or qualified nonphysician
6 practitioner” after “only if the physician”; and

7 (C) by inserting “(or other physician or
8 qualified nonphysician practitioner furnishing
9 items or services to such individual, in coordina-
10 tion with the physician or qualified nonphysi-
11 cian practitioner managing such individual’s di-
12 abetic condition)” after “managing the individ-
13 ual’s diabetic condition”;

14 (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “para-
15 graph” and inserting “subparagraph”; and

16 (3) by adding at the end the following new
17 paragraphs:

18 “(3) For purposes of paragraph (1), the times speci-
19 fied in this paragraph are the following:

20 “(A) An initial 10 hours of educational and
21 training services described in paragraph (1), to re-
22 main available until used.

23 “(B) Six additional hours (or a greater number
24 of hours if determined appropriate by the Secretary)
25 of such services during the year in which the indi-

1 vidual exhausts the initial hours described in sub-
2 paragraph (A), provided that the physician or quali-
3 fied nonphysician practitioner who is managing the
4 individual's diabetic condition (or other physician or
5 qualified nonphysician practitioner furnishing items
6 or services to such individual, in coordination with
7 the physician or qualified nonphysician practitioner
8 managing such individual's diabetic condition) cer-
9 tifies the medical necessity of such additional hours.

10 “(C) Six additional hours (or a greater number
11 of hours if determined appropriate by the Secretary)
12 of such services per year for each year beginning
13 after the year in which the individual exhausts the
14 initial hours described in subparagraph (A), provided
15 that the physician or qualified nonphysician practi-
16 tioner who is managing the individual's diabetic con-
17 dition (or other physician or qualified nonphysician
18 practitioner furnishing items or services to such in-
19 dividual, in coordination with the physician or quali-
20 fied nonphysician practitioner managing such indi-
21 vidual's diabetic condition) certifies the medical ne-
22 cessity of such additional hours.

23 “(D) For a year in which the individual has re-
24 ceived additional hours described in subparagraph
25 (B) or (C) and exhausted such hours, an additional

1 number of hours determined appropriate by the phy-
2 sician or qualified nonphysician practitioner who is
3 managing the individual's diabetic condition (or
4 other physician or qualified nonphysician practi-
5 tioner furnishing items or services to such indi-
6 vidual, in coordination with the physician or quali-
7 fied nonphysician practitioner managing such indi-
8 vidual's diabetic condition), provided that the physi-
9 cian or qualified nonphysician practitioner who is
10 managing the individual's diabetic condition (or
11 other physician or qualified nonphysician practi-
12 tioner furnishing items or services to such indi-
13 vidual, in coordination with the physician or quali-
14 fied nonphysician practitioner managing such indi-
15 vidual's diabetic condition) certifies that—

16 “(i) there has been a change in the individ-
17 ual's diagnosis, medical condition, or treatment
18 regimen;

19 “(ii) the individual is not meeting appro-
20 priate clinical outcomes (as determined by such
21 physician or qualified nonphysician practitioner)
22 for such condition; or

23 “(iii) the individual meets other criteria
24 that necessitates such additional number of
25 hours, as determined by the Secretary.

1 “(4) For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified
2 nonphysician practitioner’ means a physician assistant,
3 nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist (as defined
4 in section 1861(aa)(5)).”.

5 (b) MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY SERVICES.—Sec-
6 tion 1861(s)(2)(V) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1395x(s)(2)(V)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking clause (i);

9 (2) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as
10 clauses (i) and (ii), respectively; and

11 (3) in clause (ii), as so redesignated, by striking
12 “after consideration of” and inserting “consistent
13 with”.

14 (c) COST-SHARING.—Section 1833 of the Social Se-
15 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l) is amended—

16 (1) in subsection (a)(1)—

17 (A) by striking “and (CC)” and inserting
18 “(CC)”; and

19 (B) by striking the semicolon at the end
20 and inserting “, and (DD) with respect to dia-
21 betes outpatient self-management training serv-
22 ices (as defined in section 1861(qq)), the
23 amount paid shall be 100 percent of the lesser
24 of the actual charge for the services or the

1 amount determined under the fee schedule that
2 applies to such services under this part;” and
3 (2) in subsection (b), in the first sentence—

4 (A) by striking “and (10)” and inserting
5 “(10)”; and

6 (B) by striking “1861(hhh)(1).” and in-
7 serting “1861(hhh)(1)), and (11) such deduct-
8 ible shall not apply with respect to diabetes out-
9 patient self-management training services (as
10 defined in section 1861(qq)).”

11 (d) REVISION OF MANUAL.—Not later than 180 days
12 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
13 of Health and Human Services shall revise the Medicare
14 Benefit Policy Manual to ensure that diabetes outpatient
15 self-management training services (as defined in section
16 1861(qq) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
17 1395x(qq)), as amended by subsection (a)) may be fur-
18 nished by an entity that is a hospital outpatient depart-
19 ment at alternate, nonhospital sites (including community-
20 based locations).

21 (e) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by this
22 section shall apply with respect to items and services fur-
23 nished on or after January 1, 2020.

1 **SEC. 3. VIRTUAL DIABETES OUTPATIENT SELF-MANAGE-**
2 **MENT TRAINING SERVICES DEMONSTRATION**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than January
5 1, 2020, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (in
6 this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall select an
7 appropriate number of applicable beneficiaries to partici-
8 pate in a 2-year demonstration program to test the impact
9 of furnishing diabetes outpatient self-management train-
10 ing services through a qualified online platform with re-
11 spect to cost and clinical outcomes for such applicable
12 beneficiaries. Under such program, diabetes outpatient
13 self-management training services furnished through a
14 qualified online platform to an applicable beneficiary shall
15 be covered under title XVIII of the Social Security Act,
16 and payment for such services shall be made in the same
17 manner as payment is made under such title for such serv-
18 ices furnished in an outpatient setting.

19 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) APPLICABLE BENEFICIARY.—The term “ap-
21 plicable beneficiary” means an individual—

22 (A) who is enrolled under part B of title
23 XVIII of the Social Security Act;

24 (B) who has a diagnosis of diabetes; and

25 (C) who agrees to take part in the dem-
26 onstration program described in subsection (a).

1 (2) QUALIFIED ONLINE PLATFORM.—The term
2 “qualified online platform” means an online-based
3 platform—

4 (A) designed to furnish educational and
5 training services to an individual with diabetes
6 to ensure therapy compliance with respect to
7 the individual’s diabetic condition or to provide
8 the individual with necessary skills and knowl-
9 edge (including skills related to the self-admin-
10 istration of injectable drugs) to participate in
11 the individual’s management of such condition;
12 and

13 (B) that meets the National Standards for
14 Diabetes Self-Management Education and Sup-
15 port, as jointly published by the American Asso-
16 ciation of Diabetes Educators and the American
17 Diabetes Association.

18 (3) DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT TRAINING
19 SERVICES.—The term “diabetes outpatient self-man-
20 agement training services” has the meaning given
21 such term in section 1861(qq) of the Social Security
22 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(qq)) except that the require-
23 ment in paragraph (1) of such section with respect
24 to such services being furnished in an outpatient set-
25 ting shall not apply.

1 (c) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate the
2 demonstration program described in subsection (a) based
3 on the following criteria:

4 (1) The improvement, if any, in health out-
5 comes with respect to the diabetic conditions of ap-
6 plicable beneficiaries participating in such program
7 as evidenced by—

8 (A) any improvement attributable to such
9 program in the knowledge of such beneficiaries
10 with respect to such conditions;

11 (B) any behavioral changes attributable to
12 such program;

13 (C) any clinical outcome improvements at-
14 tributable to such program;

15 (D) any quality of life improvements at-
16 tributable to such program; and

17 (E) the overall satisfaction of such bene-
18 ficiaries with such program.

19 (2) Reductions, if any, in expenditures under
20 title XVIII of the Social Security Act attributable to
21 such program.

22 (3) Other criteria determined appropriate by
23 the Secretary.

24 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
25 date of the completion of the demonstration program de-

1 scribed in subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to
2 Congress a report containing—

3 (1) the results of the evaluation described in
4 subsection (c);

5 (2) an analysis of the demographic characteris-
6 tics of applicable beneficiaries who participated in
7 such program; and

8 (3) a recommendation on whether such program
9 should be continued or expanded.

10 (e) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive
11 such requirements of titles XI and XVIII of the Social
12 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1301 et seq., 1395 et seq.) as
13 may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this sec-
14 tion.

15 (f) AUTHORITY TO EXPAND DEMONSTRATION PRO-
16 GRAM.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), taking into ac-
17 count the evaluation described in subsection (c), the Sec-
18 retary may, through rulemaking, expand the duration and
19 the scope of the demonstration program described in sub-
20 section (a), to the extent determined appropriate by the
21 Secretary, if—

22 (1) the Secretary determines that such expan-
23 sion is expected to—

1 (A) reduce spending under title XVIII of
2 the Social Security Act without reducing quality
3 of care; or

4 (B) improve the quality of care for individ-
5 uals enrolled under part B of such title without
6 increasing spending under such title;

7 (2) the Chief Actuary of the Centers for Medi-
8 care & Medicaid Services certifies that such expan-
9 sion would reduce (or would not result in any in-
10 crease in) net program spending under such title;
11 and

12 (3) the Secretary determines that such expan-
13 sion would not deny or limit the coverage or provi-
14 sion of benefits under such title for individuals en-
15 rolled under part B of such title.