

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To provide for temporary funding for health insurance cost-sharing reduction payments and provide targeted tax relief, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To provide for temporary funding for health insurance cost-sharing reduction payments and provide targeted tax relief, 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 “Health Care Market
5 Certainty and Mandate Relief Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. COST SHARING REDUCTION PAYMENTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—

8 (1) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is appropriated
9 to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, out
10 of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appro-

1 appropriated, such sums as may be necessary for pay-
2 ments for cost-sharing reductions authorized by sec-
3 tion 1402 of Public Law 111–148, including through
4 advanced payment of such reductions under section
5 1412 of such Public Law for plan years 2017, 2018,
6 and 2019 (and including for adjustments to any
7 prior obligations for such payments).

8 (2) ADJUSTMENTS.—Notwithstanding any
9 other provision of this Act, payments and other ac-
10 tions for adjustments to obligations incurred prior to
11 December 31, 2019, may be made through Decem-
12 ber 31, 2020.

13 (3) LIMITATION.—Amounts appropriated under
14 paragraph (1) shall not include payment to an issuer
15 of a qualified health plan that includes coverage of
16 abortion (other than any abortion necessary to save
17 the life of the mother or any abortion with respect
18 to a pregnancy that is the result of an act of rape
19 or incest).

20 (b) SPECIAL RULE FOR PLAN YEAR 2018 PAY-
21 MENTS.—Section 1402(c) of Public Law 111–148 (42
22 U.S.C. 18071(c)) is amended—

23 (1) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “An
24 issuer” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (6), an
25 issuer”; and

1 (2) by adding at the end the following new
2 paragraph:

3 “(6) SPECIAL RULE FOR PLAN YEAR 2018 PAY-
4 MENTS.—

5 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
6 make payments under paragraph (3)(A), includ-
7 ing through advanced payment for cost-sharing
8 reduction under section 1412, for plan year
9 2018 to an issuer of a qualified health plan,
10 subject to subparagraph (C), only if the Sec-
11 retary determines, based on a certification and
12 appropriate documentation from the issuer and
13 a certification from State regulators, that the
14 premium rates applied under such plan for such
15 plan year were based on the assumption of re-
16 ceiving payments under paragraph (3)(A) for
17 such plan year (including by reason of the plan
18 being offered in a State in which the State reg-
19 ulators instructed issuers of health plans in
20 such State to make such an assumption).

21 “(B) RECOVERY OF PAST PAYMENTS.—If
22 the Secretary makes payments to an issuer of
23 a qualified health plan under paragraph (3)(A)
24 for plan year 2018 and subsequently determines
25 that such issuer increased premium rates for

1 that plan year because the issuer expected, or
2 was instructed by applicable State regulators to
3 expect, that the issuer would not receive such
4 payments (or, in the case of such payments
5 made to an issuer of a qualified health plan for
6 plan year 2018 pursuant to subparagraph (C),
7 determines that such issuer did not reduce pre-
8 mium rates under such plan for such plan year
9 to such rates as described in clause (i)(I) of
10 such subparagraph) the Secretary may reduce
11 payments due to such issuer under paragraph
12 (3)(A) for a subsequent plan year by the
13 amount paid to such issuer under such para-
14 graph for plan year 2018.

15 “(C) PAYMENTS ALLOWED IN CASE OF
16 ISSUERS IN STATES PROVIDING FOR PREMIUM
17 ADJUSTMENT PROCESS.—Notwithstanding sub-
18 paragraph (A), the Secretary may make pay-
19 ments under paragraph (3)(A) for plan year
20 2018 to an issuer of a qualified health plan not
21 otherwise eligible for such payments pursuant
22 to subparagraph (A) if—

23 “(i) the qualified health plan is of-
24 fered in a State for such plan year for
25 which the State insurance commissioner

1 notifies the Secretary of the Treasury and
2 the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-
3 ices of a process provided for in the State
4 under which—

5 “(I) issuers of qualified health
6 plans in such State choosing to par-
7 ticipate in such process are required
8 to reduce premium rates under such
9 plans for plan year 2018 to the rates
10 that would have been applied under
11 such plans for such plan year had the
12 issuers assumed payments for cost-
13 sharing reductions under such para-
14 graph would be received for such plan
15 year; and

16 “(II) the State submits to the
17 Secretaries information to verify that
18 the reduction of the premium rate
19 under a qualified health plan offered
20 by an issuer participating under such
21 process satisfies the reduction require-
22 ment described in subclause (I); and

23 “(ii) the issuer of such qualified
24 health plan chooses to participate in such
25 process.

1 “(D) RECONCILIATION PROCESS.—The
2 Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of
3 Health and Human Services shall adjust the
4 methodologies under section 156.430 of title 45,
5 Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the
6 date of enactment of the Health Care Market
7 Certainty and Mandate Relief Act), as may be
8 necessary to correct for any overpayments or
9 underpayments made under this section to an
10 issuer in accordance with this paragraph.”.

11 **SEC. 3. MORATORIUM ON INDIVIDUAL MANDATE.**

12 Section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
13 is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “An applica-
15 ble” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection
16 (h), an applicable”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
18 section:

19 “(h) SUSPENSION.—This section shall not apply to
20 any month beginning after December 31, 2016, and before
21 January 1, 2022.”.

22 **SEC. 4. MORATORIUM ON EMPLOYER MANDATE.**

23 Section 4980H of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986
24 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
25 section:

1 “(e) SUSPENSION.—This section shall not apply to
2 any month beginning after December 31, 2014, and before
3 January 1, 2018.”.

4 **SEC. 5. MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION LIMIT TO HEALTH SAV-**
5 **INGS ACCOUNT INCREASED TO AMOUNT OF**
6 **DEDUCTIBLE AND OUT-OF-POCKET LIMITA-**
7 **TION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 223 of
9 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding
10 at the end the following new paragraph:

11 “(9) INCREASED LIMITATION.—In the case of
12 any month beginning after December 31, 2017, and
13 before January 1, 2023—

14 “(A) paragraph (2)(A) shall be applied by
15 substituting ‘the amount in effect under sub-
16 section (c)(2)(A)(ii)(I)’ for ‘\$2,250’, and

17 “(B) paragraph (2)(B) shall be applied by
18 substituting ‘the amount in effect under sub-
19 section (c)(2)(A)(ii)(II)’ for ‘\$4,500’.”.

20 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
21 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
22 December 31, 2017.