

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To provide a moratorium on registration of new non-rural section 340B hospitals and associated sites, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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\_\_\_\_\_ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To provide a moratorium on registration of new non-rural section 340B hospitals and associated sites, 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 “Helping Ensure Low-  
5 income Patients have Access to Care and Treatment” or  
6 the “HELP Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MORATORIUM ON REGISTRATION OF NEW NON-**  
2 **RURAL SECTION 340B HOSPITALS AND ASSO-**  
3 **CIATED SITES.**

4 Section 340B(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42  
5 U.S.C. 256b(a)) is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (4)(L), by striking “A sub-  
7 section (d) hospital” and inserting “Subject to para-  
8 graph (11), a subsection (d) hospital”; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(11) MORATORIUM ON REGISTRATION OF CER-  
11 TAIN HOSPITALS AND ASSOCIATED SITES OF SUCH  
12 HOSPITALS.—During the 2-year period beginning on  
13 the date of enactment of the Helping Ensure Low-  
14 income Patients have Access to Care and Treatment  
15 Act—

16 “(A) an entity described in paragraph  
17 (4)(L) shall not be considered a covered entity  
18 under this section unless such entity was a cov-  
19 ered entity on December 31, 2017, (as evi-  
20 denced by the entity having been identified as  
21 a covered entity as of December 31, 2017,  
22 under the covered entity identification system  
23 established under subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv)); and

24 “(B) no site shall be added to the covered  
25 entity identification system established under  
26 subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv) or be permitted to

1 begin participating in the drug discount pro-  
2 gram under this section, as a ‘child site’ or oth-  
3 erwise, on the basis of association with a cov-  
4 ered entity described in paragraph (4)(L) un-  
5 less such site was identified as a child site as  
6 of December 31, 2017, under the system estab-  
7 lished under subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv).

8 “(12) REGULATIONS TO BE ISSUED DURING  
9 THE MORATORIUM PERIOD TO IMPLEMENT STATU-  
10 TORY REQUIREMENTS CLARIFYING HOSPITAL ELIGI-  
11 BILITY CRITERIA AND HOSPITAL CHILD SITE STAND-  
12 ARDS AND ENHANCING HOSPITAL TRANSPARENCY.—

13 “(A) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—

14 “(i) IN GENERAL.—During the mora-  
15 torium period under paragraph (11), the  
16 Secretary shall promulgate regulations  
17 through notice and comment rulemaking to  
18 implement the standards and requirements  
19 described in subparagraph (B).

20 “(ii) DEADLINE.—Such final regula-  
21 tions shall be promulgated and take ef-  
22 fect—

23 “(I) before the end date of the  
24 moratorium described in paragraph  
25 (11); or



1                   “(aa) the site is listed on the  
2                   hospital’s most recently filed  
3                   Medicare cost report on a line  
4                   that is reimbursable under the  
5                   Medicare program (or, if the hos-  
6                   pital is a children’s hospital that  
7                   does not file a Medicare cost re-  
8                   port, the hospital submits to the  
9                   Secretary a signed statement cer-  
10                  tifying that the facility would be  
11                  correctly included on a reimburs-  
12                  able line of a Medicare cost re-  
13                  port if the hospital filed a cost  
14                  report);

15                  “(bb) such cost report dem-  
16                  onstrates that the services pro-  
17                  vided at the facility have associ-  
18                  ated costs and charges for hos-  
19                  pital outpatient department serv-  
20                  ices under title XVIII of the So-  
21                  cial Security Act (or, if the hos-  
22                  pital is a children’s hospital that  
23                  does not file a Medicare cost re-  
24                  port, the hospital submits to the  
25                  Secretary a signed statement cer-

1 tifying that the services provided  
2 at the facility include or consist  
3 solely of outpatient services);

4 “(cc) the facility is wholly  
5 owned by the covered entity;

6 “(dd) the Secretary has  
7 made a determination, under the  
8 process described in section  
9 413.65(b) of title 42, Code of  
10 Federal Regulations (or any suc-  
11 cessor regulations), that the facil-  
12 ity meets the Medicare provider-  
13 based standards under section  
14 413.65 of title 42, Code of Fed-  
15 eral Regulations (or any suc-  
16 cessor regulations);

17 “(ee) the facility provides a  
18 full range of outpatient services,  
19 in addition to drugs; and

20 “(ff) the facility adheres to  
21 the charity care policy and any  
22 sliding fee scale policy of the par-  
23 ent hospital.

24 “(II) DE-REGISTRATION.—If at  
25 any time following registration one or

1 more of the standards listed above are  
2 no longer satisfied, a registered hos-  
3 pital shall immediately notify the Sec-  
4 retary, de-register the facility, and  
5 keep the facility from making any  
6 purchases under the drug discount  
7 program under this section or rep-  
8 resenting to third parties that it may  
9 purchase under such program.

10 “(ii) HOSPITAL ELIGIBILITY STAND-  
11 ARDS FOR HOSPITALS NOT OWNED OR OP-  
12 ERATED BY A UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL  
13 GOVERNMENT.—For purposes of subpara-  
14 graphs (L)(i) and (M) of paragraph (4):

15 “(I) A private hospital has been  
16 formally granted governmental powers  
17 by a unit of State or local government  
18 if—

19 “(aa) the Secretary receives  
20 a certification from a State or  
21 local governmental entity that  
22 such governmental entity has for-  
23 mally delegated, through State or  
24 local statute or regulation or, if  
25 permitted by applicable State or

1 local law, through a contract with  
2 a State or local government, to  
3 the hospital a power, described in  
4 detail in the certification;

5 “(bb) the power delegated as  
6 described in item (aa)—

7 “(AA) is a bona fide  
8 power that is usually or ex-  
9 clusively exercised by sov-  
10 ereign governments, and is  
11 not merely the power to pro-  
12 vide health care services on  
13 behalf of the government or  
14 to otherwise act on behalf of  
15 the government; and

16 “(BB) in the case of a  
17 hospital, is limited to the  
18 power to tax, issue govern-  
19 ment bonds, or quarantine  
20 individuals with commu-  
21 nicable diseases; and

22 “(cc) the certification de-  
23 scribed in item (aa) is accessible  
24 to the public as part of the infor-  
25 mation describing the hospital in



1 the covered entity identification  
2 system established under sub-  
3 section (d)(2)(B)(iv) (provided  
4 that such system specifies, for  
5 each covered entity hospital,  
6 whether it is publicly owned or  
7 operated, a private nonprofit hos-  
8 pital formally granted govern-  
9 mental powers by a unit of State  
10 or local government, or a private  
11 nonprofit hospital with a contract  
12 with a State or local government  
13 to provide health care services to  
14 low-income individuals who are  
15 ineligible for Medicare and Med-  
16 icaid).

17 “(II) A private hospital has a  
18 contract with a State or local govern-  
19 ment to provide health care services to  
20 low-income individuals who are not  
21 entitled to benefits under Medicare or  
22 Medicaid if—

23 “(aa) the hospital submits a  
24 copy of the contract to the Sec-  
25 retary for review;

1                   “(bb) the Secretary deter-  
2                   mines that the contract creates  
3                   an enforceable obligation for the  
4                   hospital to provide direct medical  
5                   care to low-income individuals in-  
6                   eligible for Medicare and Med-  
7                   icaid in an amount that rep-  
8                   resents at least 10 percent of the  
9                   hospital’s total costs of care; and

10                   “(cc) the contract is avail-  
11                   able to the public as part of the  
12                   information describing the hos-  
13                   pital in the covered entity identi-  
14                   fication system established under  
15                   subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv).

16                   “(III) If at any time a hospital  
17                   not owned or operated by a unit of  
18                   State or local government no longer  
19                   meets one or more requirements  
20                   under subclause (I) or (II), the hos-  
21                   pital shall immediately notify the Sec-  
22                   retary, dis-enroll from the drug dis-  
23                   count program under this section, and  
24                   stop making purchases under such  
25                   program and representing to third

1 parties that it may purchase under  
2 such program.

3 “(iii) HOSPITAL TRANSPARENCY RE-  
4 QUIREMENTS.—

5 “(I) HOSPITAL REQUIREMENTS  
6 TO IDENTIFY SECTION 340B DRUGS.—

7 In the case of covered entity hospitals  
8 described in subsections (L) and (M)  
9 of paragraph (4):

10 “(aa) Claims for covered  
11 outpatient drugs purchased  
12 under the drug discount program  
13 under this section shall be sub-  
14 mitted to public and private  
15 payors using the 340B modifier  
16 established by the Secretary  
17 under the prospective payment  
18 system for hospital outpatient de-  
19 partment services, in conform-  
20 ance with paragraph (22) of sec-  
21 tion 1833(t) of the Social Secu-  
22 rity Act, subsection (h) of  
23 1847A, subparagraph (F) of sec-  
24 tion 1927(a)(5), and paragraph  
25 (5) of section 1857(g), that is

1 ‘JG’ (or ‘TB’ in the case of a  
2 claim for reimbursement under  
3 such system submitted by a hos-  
4 pital described in subparagraph  
5 (M)of paragraph (4)).

6 “(bb) Such hospitals shall  
7 report to the Secretary on an an-  
8 nual basis, in a form and manner  
9 specified by the Secretary—

10 “(AA) the hospital’s ag-  
11 gregate annual revenue from  
12 drugs purchased under the  
13 program under this section,  
14 minus its aggregate annual  
15 acquisition costs for such  
16 drugs broken out by hospital  
17 and by each child site;

18 “(BB) the patient mix,  
19 broken down by expected  
20 payment source (including  
21 at least the Medicare pro-  
22 gram under title XVIII of  
23 the Social Security Act, a  
24 State plan under the Med-  
25 icaid program under title

1 XIX of such Act, private in-  
2 surance, and uninsured), for  
3 each child site of the hos-  
4 pital listed in the covered  
5 entity information system  
6 established under subsection  
7 (d)(2)(B)(iv), the costs in-  
8 curred at each site for char-  
9 ity care (as described in line  
10 23 of Worksheet S-10-Hos-  
11 pital Uncompensated and  
12 Indigent Care Data to the  
13 Medicare cost report or as  
14 reported in any successor  
15 form);

16 “(CC) the percent of  
17 total revenues at each site  
18 derived from infusion or in-  
19 jection of physician-adminis-  
20 tered drugs; and

21 “(DD) with respect to  
22 such hospital and each child  
23 site of the hospital, the  
24 names of all third-party ven-  
25 dors or other similar entities

1                   that the covered entity con-  
2                   tracts with to provide serv-  
3                   ices associated with the pro-  
4                   gram under this section  
5                   (broken down by covered en-  
6                   tity and by each child site).

7                   “(II) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—  
8                   The Secretary shall make the infor-  
9                   mation reported to the Secretary  
10                  under subclause (I)(bb) available to  
11                  the public (with redactions of any in-  
12                  formation the Secretary determines to  
13                  be proprietary or confidential, and in  
14                  no case shall the report attribute spe-  
15                  cific discount information, including  
16                  the ceiling price, to any individual  
17                  drug product) in an annual compila-  
18                  tion of the reported information avail-  
19                  able on the internet website of the De-  
20                  partment of Health and Human Serv-  
21                  ices, and as part of the information  
22                  describing the hospital and the rel-  
23                  evant child site in the covered entity  
24                  identification system established  
25                  under subsection (d)(2)(B)(iv).”.

1 **SEC. 3. 340B CLAIMS MODIFIER.**

2 (a) **MEDICAID.**—Section 1927(a)(5) of the Social Se-  
3 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1396r–8(a)(5)) is amended by add-  
4 ing at the end the following:

5 “(F) **340B CLAIMS MODIFIER.**—

6 “(i) **IN GENERAL.**—All claims sub-  
7 mitted to a Medicaid fee-for-service pro-  
8 gram or a medicaid managed care organi-  
9 zation (as defined in section  
10 1903(m)(1)(A)) for reimbursement of a  
11 unit of a covered outpatient drug subject  
12 to an agreement under section 340B of the  
13 Public Health Service Act shall include the  
14 340B modifier established by the Secretary  
15 under the prospective payment system for  
16 hospital outpatient department services  
17 under section 1833(t) that is ‘JG’ or the  
18 Submission Clarification Code of ‘20’ de-  
19 veloped by the National Council for Pre-  
20 scription Drug Programs (NCPDP).

21 “(ii) **DATA SHARING.**—Each single  
22 State agency shall make available to a  
23 manufacturer of a covered outpatient drug  
24 any fee-for-service or managed care claim  
25 for reimbursement for a unit of such drug  
26 for the purpose of verifying the propriety

1 of any claim for a rebate payment under  
2 an agreement under subsection (b) with re-  
3 spect to such drug. At the manufacturer's  
4 request, in lieu of making such a claim  
5 available to the manufacturer, the single  
6 State agency may instead provide a list of  
7 claims (and relevant data concerning each  
8 claim) for covered outpatient drugs that  
9 were purchased under an agreement under  
10 section 340B of the Public Health Service  
11 Act or other summary data specified by  
12 the manufacturer.

13 “(iii) REPORT.—Each single State  
14 agency shall publish an annual report on  
15 utilization of covered outpatient drugs sub-  
16 ject to an agreement under section 340B  
17 of the Public Health Service Act by the  
18 Medicaid fee-for-service program or a med-  
19 icaid managed care organization (as de-  
20 fined in section 1903(m)(1)(A)) during the  
21 preceding calendar year. The State agency  
22 shall not include confidential patient-spe-  
23 cific, drug-specific, or manufacturer-spe-  
24 cific information in any such annual re-  
25 port.”.



1 (b) MEDICARE.—

2 (1) MEDICARE PART B.—

3 (A) HOSPITAL OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT  
4 SERVICES.—Section 1833(t) of the Social Secu-  
5 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l) is amended by add-  
6 ing at the end the following paragraph:

7 “(22) 340B CLAIMS MODIFIER.—All claims sub-  
8 mitted under the system under this subsection for  
9 reimbursement of a unit of a covered outpatient  
10 drug subject to an agreement under section 340B of  
11 the Public Health Service Act shall include the 340B  
12 modifier established by the Secretary under such  
13 system that is ‘JG’ (or ‘TB’ in the case of a claim  
14 for reimbursement under such system submitted by  
15 a hospital described in subparagraph (M) or (N) of  
16 section 340B(a)(4) of the Public Health Service Act  
17 or a rural sole community hospital described in sub-  
18 paragraph (O) of such section).”.

19 (B) OTHER PART B CLAIMS.—Section  
20 1847A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
21 1395w–3a) is amended by adding the following  
22 new subsection:

23 “(h) 340B CLAIMS MODIFIER.—All claims submitted  
24 under this part (other than under the prospective payment  
25 system for hospital outpatient department services under

1 section 1833(t)) for reimbursement of a unit of a covered  
2 outpatient drug subject to an agreement under section  
3 340B of the Public Health Service Act shall include the  
4 340B modifier established by the Secretary under such  
5 payment system that is ‘JG’.”.

6 (2) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE AND MEDICARE  
7 PART D.—Section 1857(e) of the Social Security Act  
8 (42 U.S.C. 1395w–27(e)) is amended by adding at  
9 the end the following new paragraphs:

10 “(5) 340B CLAIMS MODIFIER.—All claims sub-  
11 mitted to a Medicare Advantage organization or a  
12 PDP sponsor under this part and part D, respec-  
13 tively, for reimbursement of a unit of a covered out-  
14 patient drug subject to an agreement under section  
15 340B of the Public Health Service Act shall include  
16 the 340B modifier established by the Secretary  
17 under the prospective payment system for hospital  
18 outpatient department services under section  
19 1833(t) that is ‘JG’ or the Submission Clarification  
20 Code of ‘20’ developed by the National Council for  
21 Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP).”.

22 (3) REPORT ON UTILIZATION UNDER MEDICARE  
23 PART B.—The Secretary of Health and Human  
24 Services shall publish an annual report on utilization  
25 under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security

1 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395j et seq.) of covered outpatient  
2 drugs purchased subject to an agreement under sec-  
3 tion 340B of the Public Health Service Act (42  
4 U.S.C. 256b) during the preceding calendar year.  
5 The Secretary shall not include confidential patient-  
6 specific, drug-specific, or manufacturer-specific in-  
7 formation in any such annual report.

8 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
9 this section take effect on the date that is 6 months after  
10 the date of enactment of this Act and apply to claims sub-  
11 mitted on or after that date.

12 **SEC. 4. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**

13 Section 340B of the Public Health Service Act (42  
14 U.S.C. 256b) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 “(f) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

17 “(1) OIG REPORT.—Not later than 2 years  
18 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,  
19 the Office of the Inspector General shall submit to  
20 Congress a final report on the level of charity care  
21 provided by covered entities described in subpara-  
22 graphs (L) and (M) of subsection (a)(4) and sepa-  
23 rately by child sites of such covered entities.

24 “(2) GAO REPORTS.—

1           “(A) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 1  
2 year after the date of the enactment of this  
3 subsection, the Comptroller General of the  
4 United States shall submit to Congress a re-  
5 port—

6                   “(i) analyzing the State and local gov-  
7 ernment contracts intended to satisfy the  
8 requirement under subsection (a)(4)(L)(i)  
9 for a covered entity to qualify as an entity  
10 described in subparagraph (L) of sub-  
11 section (a)(4);

12                   “(ii) assessing the amount of care  
13 such contracts obligate such entity to pro-  
14 vide to low-income individuals ineligible for  
15 Medicare under title XVIII of the Social  
16 Security Act and Medicaid under title XIX  
17 of such Act; and

18                   “(iii) analyzing how these contracts  
19 define low-income individuals and whether  
20 the Secretary reviews such determinations.

21           “(B) SUBSEQUENT REPORT.—Not later  
22 than 2 years after the date of the enactment of  
23 this subsection, the Comptroller General of the  
24 United States shall submit to Congress a final  
25 report on the difference between the aggregate

1           gross reimbursement and aggregate acquisition  
2           costs received by each such covered entity (in-  
3           cluding child sites of such entity) for drugs sub-  
4           ject to an agreement under this section.”.