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(Original Signature of Member)

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1549

To amend Public Law 111–148 to transfer fiscal year 2013 through fiscal year 2016 funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund to carry out the temporary high risk health insurance pool program for individuals with preexisting conditions, and to extend access to such program to such individuals who have had creditable coverage during the 6 months prior to application for coverage through such program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PITTS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend Public Law 111–148 to transfer fiscal year 2013 through fiscal year 2016 funds from the Prevention and Public Health Fund to carry out the temporary high risk health insurance pool program for individuals with preexisting conditions, and to extend access to such program to such individuals who have had creditable coverage during the 6 months prior to application for coverage through such program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Helping Sick Ameri-
3 cans Now Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PRIORITIZING FUNDING FOR SICK AMERICANS.**

5 Section 4002(c) of Public Law 111–148 (42 U.S.C.
6 300u–11(c)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing: “Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary shall transfer amounts that are in the
9 Fund that are attributable to fiscal year 2013 that are
10 not otherwise obligated as of the date of the enactment
11 of this sentence and funds that would otherwise be made
12 available to the Fund for fiscal year 2014, fiscal year
13 2015, and fiscal year 2016 to the account within the De-
14 partment of Health and Human Services that provides for
15 funding to carry out the temporary high risk health insur-
16 ance pool program under section 1101 and such funds
17 shall become available for obligation under such section
18 on such date of enactment and remain so available
19 through December 31, 2013.”.

20 **SEC. 3. IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR SICK**
21 **AMERICANS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1101(d) of Public Law
23 111–148 (42 U.S.C. 18001(d)) is amended—

24 (1) in paragraph (1), by adding at the end
25 “and”;

26 (2) by striking paragraph (2); and

1 (3) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
2 graph (2).

3 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
4 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to individuals ap-
5 plying for coverage through the high risk insurance pool
6 program on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.