

**[DISCUSSION DRAFT]**

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require a review of current opioid prescriptions for chronic pain and screening for opioid use disorder to be included in the Welcome to Medicare initial preventive physical examination.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BUCSHON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require a review of current opioid prescriptions for chronic pain and screening for opioid use disorder to be included in the Welcome to Medicare initial preventive physical examination.

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. REQUIRING A REVIEW OF CURRENT OPIOID**  
2 **PRESCRIPTIONS FOR CHRONIC PAIN AND**  
3 **SCREENING FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER TO**  
4 **BE INCLUDED IN THE WELCOME TO MEDI-**  
5 **CARE INITIAL PREVENTIVE PHYSICAL EXAM-**  
6 **INATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(ww) of the Social  
8 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(ww)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and a re-  
10 view of current opioid prescriptions and screening  
11 for opioid use disorder (as defined in paragraph  
12 (4)),” before “but does not include”; and

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

15 “(4) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term ‘a re-  
16 view of current opioid prescriptions and screening for  
17 opioid use disorder’ means, with respect to an individual—

18 “(A) a review by a physician of whether any of  
19 the current prescriptions of the individual include a  
20 prescription for opioids; and

21 “(B) in the case of an individual determined by  
22 the review of a physician under subparagraph (A) to  
23 have a current prescription for opioids—

24 “(i) a review by the physician of the poten-  
25 tial risk factors to the individual for opioid use  
26 disorder based on the use of an appropriate

1 screening instrument designed for such purpose  
2 and recognized by national professional medical  
3 organizations;

4 “(ii) an evaluation by the physician of pain  
5 of the individual, including the severity of pain  
6 (such as the extent to which the individual is  
7 disabled or experiences limits to activities of  
8 daily living due to chronic pain), and of the cur-  
9 rent treatment plan for the individual to man-  
10 age chronic pain symptoms;

11 “(iii) the provision of verbal or written in-  
12 formation by the physician regarding non-opioid  
13 treatment options for the treatment and man-  
14 agement of any chronic pain of the individual;  
15 and

16 “(iv) a referral by the physician, as  
17 deemed appropriate by the physician based on  
18 the results of the review and evaluation con-  
19 ducted as described in this paragraph, to a spe-  
20 cialist that is a physician or qualified nonphysi-  
21 cian practitioner (as defined by the Sec-  
22 retary).”.

23 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by  
24 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to initial preventive

1 physical examinations furnished on or after January 1,  
2 2019.