

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2660

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare and publish annually a consumer guide to prescription drug prices.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare and publish annually a consumer guide to prescription drug prices.

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 “Prescription Drug
5 Consumer Information Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. PREPARATION OF CONSUMER GUIDE.**

7 The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this
8 Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall prepare and pub-
9 lish in accordance with this Act a consumer guide to pre-

1 prescription drug prices (in this Act referred to as the “con-
2 sumer guide”).

3 **SEC. 3. INFORMATION TO BE CONTAINED IN CONSUMER**
4 **GUIDE.**

5 The consumer guide shall contain—

6 (1) a list of the prices of all prescription drugs
7 in an easy-to-understand format organized by thera-
8 peutic category; and

9 (2) such other related information as the Sec-
10 retary determines will assist—

11 (A) consumers in reducing expenses for
12 prescription drugs; and

13 (B) health care providers in determining
14 the cost-effectiveness of prescription drugs as
15 compared to other prescription drugs and to
16 other therapies.

17 **SEC. 4. PUBLICATION.**

18 The Secretary shall publish the first consumer guide
19 within 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act
20 and shall publish an updated version of the consumer
21 guide annually thereafter. In addition, the Secretary may
22 publish periodically bulletins which describe changes in the
23 prices of prescription drugs between the dates of the an-
24 nual publication of the consumer guide.

1 **SEC. 5. AVAILABILITY OF CONSUMER GUIDE.**

2 The Secretary shall—

3 (1) provide the consumer guide to public librar-
4 ies;

5 (2) provide for the dissemination of the con-
6 sumer guide widely to consumers of prescription
7 drugs and health care providers;

8 (3) encourage organizations representing senior
9 citizens, health care consumers, and health care pro-
10 fessionals to make the consumer guide available to
11 the members of those organizations; and

12 (4) make the consumer guide available through
13 a computer network which is easily accessible to the
14 general public, as well as in print.

15 **SEC. 6. FEES FOR CONSUMER GUIDE.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
17 (b), the Secretary shall charge a reasonable fee for pro-
18 viding the consumer guide which may not exceed an
19 amount reasonably related to the costs of publishing and
20 distributing the consumer guide.

21 (b) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary shall not charge a
22 fee for providing the consumer guide to public libraries.

23 (c) FEES COLLECTED.—Fees collected in exchange
24 for providing the consumer guide shall be available to the

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- 1 Secretary to cover the costs of publishing and distributing
- 2 the consumer guide.

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