

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2618

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental and oral health services, vision services, and hearing services under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2021

Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of dental and oral health services, vision services, and hearing services under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

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 “Medicare and Medicaid  
5       Dental, Vision, and Hearing Benefit Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER**  
 2 **MEDICARE.**

3 (a) **COVERAGE.**—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-  
 4 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)) is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (GG), by striking “and”  
 6 after the semicolon at the end;

7 (2) in subparagraph (HH), by striking the pe-  
 8 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 10 paragraph:

11 “(II) dental and oral health services (as defined  
 12 in subsection (III));”.

13 (b) **DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH SERVICES DE-**  
 14 **FINED.**—Section 1861 of the Social Security Act (42  
 15 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 16 lowing new subsection:

17 “Dental and Oral Health Services

18 “(III) The term ‘dental and oral health services’  
 19 means—

20 “(1) routine dental cleanings and exams;

21 “(2) basic dental services, such as fillings and  
 22 crowns;

23 “(3) major dental services, such as root canals,  
 24 and extractions;

25 “(4) emergency dental care; and

1 “(5) other necessary services related to dental  
2 or oral health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

3 (c) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the  
5 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)) is  
6 amended—

7 (A) by striking “and” before “(DD)”; and

8 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at  
9 the end the following: “, and (EE) with respect  
10 to dental and oral health services (as defined in  
11 section 1861(l)), the amount paid shall be the  
12 payment amount specified under section  
13 1834(z)”.

14 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section  
15 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m)  
16 is amended by adding at the end the following new  
17 subsection:

18 “(z) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR DENTAL AND ORAL  
19 HEALTH SERVICES.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
21 under this part for dental and oral health services  
22 (as defined in section 1861(l)) shall be, subject to  
23 paragraph (3), the applicable percent (specified in  
24 paragraph (2)) of the lesser of the actual charge for

1 the services or the amount determined under the  
 2 payment basis determined under section 1848.

3 “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For purposes of  
 4 paragraph (1), the applicable percent specified in  
 5 this paragraph is—

6 “(A) for the first year beginning at least 6  
 7 months after the date of the enactment of this  
 8 subsection, 0 percent;

9 “(B) for the year following the year speci-  
 10 fied in subparagraph (A) and each subsequent  
 11 year through the seventh year following the  
 12 year specified in subparagraph (A), the applica-  
 13 ble percent specified in this paragraph for the  
 14 previous year increased by 10 percentage  
 15 points; and

16 “(C) for the eighth year following the year  
 17 specified in subparagraph (A) and each subse-  
 18 quent year, 80 percent.

19 “(3) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AUTHOR-  
 20 ITY.—

21 “(A) FREQUENCY.—With respect to dental  
 22 and oral health services that are—

23 “(i) routine dental cleanings, payment  
 24 may be made under this part for only two

1 such cleanings during a 12-month period;  
2 and

3 “(ii) routine exams, payment may be  
4 made under this part for only two such  
5 exams during a 12-month period.

6 “(B) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

7 “(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-  
8 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may  
9 apply such other reasonable limitations on  
10 the extent to which dental and oral services  
11 are covered under this part, including  
12 through application of a prior authoriza-  
13 tion requirement.

14 “(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COV-  
15 ERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
16 sion of this title, if the Secretary deter-  
17 mines appropriate, the Secretary may mod-  
18 ify the coverage under this part of dental  
19 and oral health services to the extent that  
20 such modification is consistent with the  
21 recommendations of the United States Pre-  
22 ventive Services Task Force.”.

23 (d) PAYMENT UNDER PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE.—

24 Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.

1 1395w-4(j)(3)) is amended by inserting “(2)(II),” before  
 2 “(3)”.

3 (e) DENTURES.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(s)(8) of the  
 5 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(8)) is  
 6 amended—

7 (A) by striking “(other than dental)” and  
 8 inserting “(including dentures)”; and

9 (B) by striking “internal body”.

10 (2) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES.—Section  
 11 1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
 12 1395m(a)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 13 lowing new paragraph:

14 “(23) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR DENTURES.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
 16 under this part for dentures shall be, subject to  
 17 subparagraph (C), the applicable percent (speci-  
 18 fied in subparagraph (B)) of the amount other-  
 19 wise payable for such dentures under this sec-  
 20 tion.

21 “(B) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For pur-  
 22 poses of subparagraph (A), the applicable per-  
 23 cent specified in this subparagraph is—

1 “(i) for the first year beginning at  
 2 least 6 months after the date of the enact-  
 3 ment of this paragraph, 0 percent;

4 “(ii) for the year following the year  
 5 specified in clause (i) and each subsequent  
 6 year through the seventh year following the  
 7 year specified in clause (i), the applicable  
 8 percent specified in this subparagraph for  
 9 the previous year increased by 10 percent-  
 10 age points; and

11 “(iii) for the eighth year following the  
 12 year specified in clause (i) and each subse-  
 13 quent year, 80 percent.

14 “(C) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-  
 15 THORITY.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Payment may be  
 17 made under this part for an individual  
 18 for—

19 “(I) not more than one full upper  
 20 and one full lower denture once every  
 21 five years; and

22 “(II) not more than one partial  
 23 upper denture and one partial lower  
 24 denture once every five years.

25 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

1                   “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-  
2                   TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary  
3                   may apply such other reasonable limi-  
4                   tations on the extent to which den-  
5                   tures are covered under this part, in-  
6                   cluding through application of a prior  
7                   authorization requirement.

8                   “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY  
9                   COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any  
10                  other provision of this title, if the Sec-  
11                  retary determines appropriate, the  
12                  Secretary may modify the coverage  
13                  under this part of dentures to the ex-  
14                  tent that such modification is con-  
15                  sistent with the recommendations of  
16                  the United States Preventive Services  
17                  Task Force.”.

18           (f) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—Section  
19   1862(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y) is  
20   amended by striking paragraph (12).

21           (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
22   this section shall apply to services furnished on or after  
23   January 1 of the first year beginning at least six months  
24   after the date of the enactment of this Act.



1 **SEC. 3. VISION SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE.**

2 (a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-  
 3 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)), as amended by section  
 4 2(a), is amended—

5 (1) in subparagraph (HH), by striking “and”  
 6 after the semicolon at the end;

7 (2) in subparagraph (II), by adding “and” after  
 8 the semicolon at the end; and

9 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 10 paragraph:

11 “(JJ) vision services (as defined in subsection  
 12 (mmm));”.

13 (b) VISION SERVICES DEFINED.—Section 1861 of  
 14 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x), as amended  
 15 by section 2(b), is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
 16 lowing new subsection:

17 “Vision Services

18 “(mmm) The term ‘vision services’ means—

19 “(1) routine eye examinations and procedures  
 20 performed (during the course of any eye examina-  
 21 tion) to determine the refractive state of the eyes;  
 22 and

23 “(2) other necessary services related to eye and  
 24 vision health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

25 (c) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the  
 2 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)), as  
 3 amended by section 2(c)(1), is amended—

4 (A) by striking “and” before “(EE)”; and

5 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at  
 6 the end the following: “, and (FF) with respect  
 7 to vision services (as defined in section  
 8 1861(mmm)), the amount paid shall be the  
 9 payment amount specified under section  
 10 1834(aa)”.

11 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section  
 12 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m),  
 13 as amended by section 2(c)(2), is amended by add-  
 14 ing at the end the following new subsection:

15 “(aa) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR VISION SERV-  
 16 ICES.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
 18 under this part for vision services (as defined in sec-  
 19 tion 1861(mmm)) shall be, subject to paragraph (3),  
 20 the applicable percent (specified in paragraph (2)) of  
 21 the lesser of the actual charge for the services or the  
 22 amount determined under the payment basis deter-  
 23 mined under section 1848.

1           “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For purposes of  
2 paragraph (1), the applicable percent specified in  
3 this paragraph is—

4           “(A) for the first year beginning at least 6  
5 months after the date of the enactment of this  
6 subsection, 0 percent;

7           “(B) for the year following the year speci-  
8 fied in subparagraph (A) and each subsequent  
9 year through the seventh year following the  
10 year specified in subparagraph (A), the applica-  
11 ble percent specified in this paragraph for the  
12 previous year increased by 10 percentage  
13 points; and

14           “(C) for the eighth year following the year  
15 specified in subparagraph (A) and each subse-  
16 quent year, 80 percent.

17           “(3) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AUTHOR-  
18 ITY.—

19           “(A) FREQUENCY.—With respect to rou-  
20 tine eye exams, payment may be made under  
21 this part for only one such exam during a 12-  
22 month period.

23           “(B) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

24           “(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-  
25 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may

1           apply other reasonable limitations on the  
 2           extent to which vision services are covered  
 3           under this part, including through applica-  
 4           tion of a prior authorization requirement.

5           “(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COV-  
 6           ERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
 7           sion of this title, if the Secretary deter-  
 8           mines appropriate, the Secretary may mod-  
 9           ify the coverage under this part of vision  
 10          services to the extent that such modifica-  
 11          tion is consistent with the recommenda-  
 12          tions of the United States Preventive Serv-  
 13          ices Task Force.”.

14          (d) PAYMENT UNDER PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE.—  
 15          Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
 16          1395w–4(j)(3)), as amended by section 2(d), is amended  
 17          by inserting “(2)(JJ),” after “(2)(II),”.

18          (e) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES FOR EYEGLASSES,  
 19          CONTACT LENSES, AND LOW VISION DEVICES.—Section  
 20          1834(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)),  
 21          as amended by section 2(e)(2), is amended by adding at  
 22          the end the following new paragraphs:

23                 “(24) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR EYEGLASSES  
 24                 AND CONTACT LENSES.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
2           under this part for eyeglass lenses, eyeglass  
3           frames, and contact lenses shall be, subject to  
4           subparagraph (C), the applicable percent (speci-  
5           fied in subparagraph (B)) of the amount other-  
6           wise payable for such eyeglass lenses, eyeglass  
7           frames, and contact lenses, respectively, under  
8           this section.

9           “(B) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For pur-  
10          poses of subparagraph (A), the applicable per-  
11          cent specified in this subparagraph is—

12               “(i) for the first year beginning at  
13               least 6 months after the date of the enact-  
14               ment of this paragraph, 0 percent;

15               “(ii) for the year following the year  
16               specified in clause (i) and each subsequent  
17               year through the seventh year following the  
18               year specified in clause (i), the applicable  
19               percent specified in this subparagraph for  
20               the previous year increased by 10 percent-  
21               age points; and

22               “(iii) for the eighth year following the  
23               year specified in clause (i) and each subse-  
24               quent year, 80 percent.

1           “(C) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-  
2 THORITY.—

3           “(i) IN GENERAL.—Payment may be  
4 made under this part (other than for  
5 eyewear described in section 1861(s)(8))  
6 for an individual for—

7           “(I) not more than one pair of  
8 eyeglass lenses during any 12-month  
9 period;

10          “(II) not more than one set of  
11 eyeglass frames during any 24-month  
12 period; and

13          “(III) contact lenses, only to the  
14 extent that the sum of such payments  
15 for contact lenses does not exceed a  
16 limitation of \$200 during any 24-  
17 month period beginning during the  
18 first year beginning at least six  
19 months after the date of the enact-  
20 ment of this paragraph (or, beginning  
21 during a subsequent year, such limita-  
22 tion for a 24-month period beginning  
23 in the previous year increase by an  
24 appropriate inflation adjustment spec-  
25 ified by the Secretary).

1 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

2 “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-  
3 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary  
4 may apply such other reasonable limi-  
5 tations on the extent to which eye-  
6 glass lenses, eyeglass frames, and con-  
7 tact lenses are covered under this  
8 part, including through application of  
9 a prior authorization requirement.

10 “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY  
11 COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any  
12 other provision of this title, if the Sec-  
13 retary determines appropriate, the  
14 Secretary may modify the coverage  
15 under this part of eyeglass lenses, eye-  
16 glass frames, and contact lenses to  
17 the extent that such modification is  
18 consistent with the recommendations  
19 of the United States Preventive Serv-  
20 ices Task Force.

21 “(25) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR LOW VISION  
22 DEVICES.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
24 under this part for low vision devices shall be,  
25 subject to subparagraph (C), the applicable per-

cent (specified in subparagraph (B)) of the amount otherwise payable for low vision devices under this section.

“(B) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable percent specified in this subparagraph is—

“(i) for the first year beginning at least 6 months after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, 0 percent;

“(ii) for the year following the year specified in clause (i) and each subsequent year through the seventh year following the year specified in clause (i), the applicable percent specified in this subparagraph for the previous year increased by 10 percentage points; and

“(iii) for the eighth year following the year specified in clause (i) and each subsequent year, 80 percent.

“(C) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

“(i) AUTHORITY TO APPLY LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary may apply reasonable limitations on the extent to which low vision devices are covered under this part,



1 including through application of a prior  
2 authorization requirement.

3 “(ii) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COV-  
4 ERAGE.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
5 sion of this title, if the Secretary deter-  
6 mines appropriate, the Secretary may mod-  
7 ify the coverage under this part of low vi-  
8 sion devices to the extent that such modi-  
9 fication is consistent with the recommenda-  
10 tions of the United States Preventive Serv-  
11 ices Task Force.

12 “(D) LOW VISION DEVICE DEFINED.—In  
13 this paragraph, the term ‘low vision device’  
14 means a device, prescribed by a physician, that  
15 magnifies, enhances, or otherwise augments or  
16 interprets visual images irrespective of the size,  
17 form, or technological features of such device  
18 and does not include ordinary eyeglasses or con-  
19 tact lenses. In the previous sentence, the term  
20 ‘ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses’ means  
21 lenses that are intended to fully correct visual  
22 acuity or fully eliminate refractive error.”.

23 (f) DEFINITION OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

24 TO INCLUDE EYEGLASSES, CONTACT LENSES, AND LOW

1 VISION DEVICES.—Section 1861(n) of the Social Security  
2 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended—

3 (1) by striking “and” before “eye tracking” and  
4 inserting a comma; and

5 (2) by inserting “, and eyeglass lenses, low vi-  
6 sion devices (as defined in section 1834(a)(25)), eye-  
7 glass frames, and contact lenses” before “; except”.

8 (g) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—Section  
9 1862(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
10 1395y(a)(7)) is amended by striking “, eyeglasses (other  
11 than eyewear described in section 1861(s)(8)) or eye ex-  
12 aminations for the purpose of prescribing, fitting, or  
13 changing eyeglasses, procedures performed (during the  
14 course of any eye examination) to determine the refractive  
15 state of the eyes”.

16 (h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
17 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after  
18 January 1 of the first year beginning at least six months  
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 4. HEARING SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE.**

21 (a) COVERAGE.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the  
23 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)), as  
24 amended by sections 2(a) and 3(a), is amended—

1 (A) in subparagraph (II), by striking  
2 “and” at the end;

3 (B) in subparagraph (JJ), by inserting  
4 “and” at the end; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following new  
6 subparagraph:

7 “(KK) audiology services (as defined in sub-  
8 section (ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined in  
9 subsection (ll)(5));”.

10 (2) HEARING SERVICES DEFINED.—Section  
11 1861(ll) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
12 1395x(ll)) is amended—

13 (A) in the subsection heading, by inserting  
14 “; HEARING SERVICES” after “AUDIOLOGY  
15 SERVICES”; and

16 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
17 paragraph:

18 “(5) The term ‘hearing services’ means—

19 “(A) routine hearing exams and exams for  
20 hearing aids; and

21 “(B) other necessary services related to hearing  
22 health (as defined by the Secretary).”.

23 (b) PAYMENT; COINSURANCE; AND LIMITATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the  
25 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)), as

1 amended by sections 2(c)(1) and 3(c)91), is amend-  
 2 ed—

3 (A) by striking “and” before “(FF)”; and

4 (B) by inserting before the semicolon at  
 5 the end the following: “, and (GG) with respect  
 6 to audiology services (as defined in section  
 7 1861(ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined in  
 8 section 1861(ll)(5)), the amount paid shall be  
 9 the payment amount specified under section  
 10 1834(bb)”.

11 (2) PAYMENT AND LIMITS SPECIFIED.—Section  
 12 1834 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m),  
 13 as amended by sections 2(c)(2) and 3(c)(2), is  
 14 amended by adding at the end the following new  
 15 subsection:

16 “(bb) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR HEARING SERV-  
 17 ICES.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
 19 under this part for audiology services (as defined in  
 20 section 1861(ll)(3)) and hearing services (as defined  
 21 in section 1861(ll)(5)), shall be, subject to para-  
 22 graph (3), the applicable percent (specified in para-  
 23 graph (2)) of the lesser of the actual charge for the  
 24 services or the amount determined under the pay-  
 25 ment basis determined under section 1848.

1           “(2) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For purposes of  
2 paragraph (1), the applicable percent specified in  
3 this paragraph is—

4           “(A) for the first year beginning at least 6  
5 months after the date of the enactment of this  
6 subsection, 0 percent;

7           “(B) for the year following the year speci-  
8 fied in subparagraph (A) and each subsequent  
9 year through the seventh year following the  
10 year specified in subparagraph (A), the applica-  
11 ble percent specified in this paragraph for the  
12 previous year increased by 10 percentage  
13 points; and

14           “(C) for the eighth year following the year  
15 specified in subparagraph (A) and each subse-  
16 quent year, 80 percent.

17           “(3) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

18           “(A) AUTHORITY TO APPLY LIMITA-  
19 TIONS.—The Secretary may apply reasonable  
20 limitations on the extent to which audiology  
21 services and hearing services are covered under  
22 this part, including through application of a  
23 prior authorization requirement.

24           “(B) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY COVERAGE.—  
25 Notwithstanding any other provision of this

1 title, if the Secretary determines appropriate,  
 2 the Secretary may modify the coverage under  
 3 this part of audiology services and hearing serv-  
 4 ices to the extent that such modification is con-  
 5 sistent with the recommendations of the United  
 6 States Preventive Services Task Force.”.

7 (c) PAYMENT UNDER THE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHED-  
 8 ULE.—Section 1848(j)(3) of the Social Security Act (42  
 9 U.S.C. 1395w–4(j)(3)), as amended by sections 2(d) and  
 10 3(d), is amended by inserting “(2)(KK),” after  
 11 “(2)(JJ),”.

12 (d) HEARING AIDS.—

13 (1) REPEAL OF GROUND FOR EXCLUSION.—  
 14 Section 1862(a)(7) of the Social Security Act (42  
 15 U.S.C. 1395y(a)(7)), as amended by section 3(g), is  
 16 amended by striking “, hearing aids or examinations  
 17 therefor,”.

18 (2) DEFINITION OF DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIP-  
 19 MENT TO INCLUDE HEARING AIDS.—Section 1861(n)  
 20 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)), as  
 21 amended by section 3(f), is amended by inserting  
 22 “hearing aids,” before “and eyeglass lenses”.

23 (3) SPECIAL PAYMENT RULES FOR HEARING  
 24 AIDS.—Section 1834(a) of the Social Security Act  
 25 (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)), as amended by sections

1        2(e)(2) and 3(e), is amended by adding at the end  
 2        the following new paragraph:

3            “(26) PAYMENT AND LIMITS FOR HEARING  
 4        AIDS.—

5            “(A) IN GENERAL.—The payment amount  
 6        under this part for hearing aids shall be, sub-  
 7        ject to subparagraph (C), the applicable percent  
 8        (specified in subparagraph (B)) of the amount  
 9        otherwise payable for hearing aids under this  
 10       section.

11           “(B) APPLICABLE PERCENT.—For pur-  
 12        poses of subparagraph (A), the applicable per-  
 13        cent specified in this subparagraph is—

14           “(i) for the first year beginning at  
 15        least 6 months after the date of the enact-  
 16        ment of this paragraph, 0 percent;

17           “(ii) for the year following the year  
 18        specified in clause (i) and each subsequent  
 19        year through the seventh year following the  
 20        year specified in clause (i), the applicable  
 21        percent specified in this subparagraph for  
 22        the previous year increased by 10 percent-  
 23        age points; and

1 “(iii) for the eighth year following the  
2 year specified in clause (i) and each subse-  
3 quent year, 80 percent.

4 “(C) LIMITATIONS AND SECRETARIAL AU-  
5 THORITY.—

6 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Payment may be  
7 made under this part for an individual for  
8 not more than one hearing aid per ear dur-  
9 ing a 48-month period.

10 “(ii) SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.—

11 “(I) AUTHORITY TO APPLY ADDI-  
12 TIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary  
13 may apply additional limitations on  
14 the extent to which hearing aids are  
15 covered under this part, including  
16 through application of a prior author-  
17 ization requirement and through ap-  
18 plication of criteria for a minimum  
19 level of hearing loss for coverage of an  
20 initial or replacement hearing aid.

21 “(II) AUTHORITY TO MODIFY  
22 COVERAGE.—Notwithstanding any  
23 other provision of this title, if the Sec-  
24 retary determines appropriate, the  
25 Secretary may modify the coverage



1 under this part of hearing aids to the  
 2 extent that such modification is con-  
 3 sistent with the recommendations of  
 4 the United States Preventive Services  
 5 Task Force.”.

6 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
 7 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after  
 8 January 1 of the first year beginning at least six months  
 9 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

10 **SEC. 5. INCREASED FMAP FOR COVERAGE OF DENTAL AND**  
 11 **ORAL HEALTH SERVICES, VISION SERVICES,**  
 12 **AND HEARING SERVICES UNDER MEDICAID.**

13 Section 1905 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
 14 1396d) is amended—

15 (1) in subsection (a)—

16 (A) in paragraph (10), by inserting “,  
 17 which may include any dental and oral health  
 18 service (as defined in section 1861(III))” after  
 19 “dental services”;

20 (B) in paragraph (13)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “;  
 22 and” and inserting a semicolon;

23 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking  
 24 the semicolon and inserting “; and”; and

1 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
 2 lowing new subparagraph:

3 “(D) any service that is a vision service (as  
 4 defined in section 1861(mmm)) or a hearing  
 5 service (as defined in section 1861(ll)(5));”;

6 (2) in subsection (b), by striking “and (ii)” and  
 7 inserting “(ii), and (jj)”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 9 section:

10 “(jj) INCREASED FMAP FOR EXPENDITURES FOR  
 11 DENTAL AND ORAL HEALTH SERVICES, VISION SERV-  
 12 ICES, AND HEARING SERVICES.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection  
 14 (b), the Federal medical assistance percentage with  
 15 respect to amounts expended by a State for medical  
 16 assistance for services described in paragraph (2)  
 17 shall be equal to 90 percent.

18 “(2) SERVICES DESCRIBED.—A service de-  
 19 scribed in this paragraph is any service that—

20 “(A) is furnished on or after January 1 of  
 21 the first calendar year that begins at least 6  
 22 months after the date of the enactment of this  
 23 subsection;

24 “(B) is not furnished to an individual who  
 25 is—

1 “(i) under the age of 21; and

2 “(ii) eligible for medical assistance for  
3 the services described in subsection  
4 (a)(4)(B); and

5 “(C) is—

6 “(i) a dental and oral health service  
7 (as defined in section 1861(lll));

8 “(ii) a vision service (as defined in  
9 section 1861(mmm)); or

10 “(iii) a hearing service (as defined in  
11 section 1861(ll)(5)).”.

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