

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 8551

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide no-cost coverage for annual screening mammography beginning at 30 years of age.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2026

Mr. LAWLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act and title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide no-cost coverage for annual screening mammography beginning at 30 years of age.

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 “Early Access to
5 Screening Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NO-COST COVERAGE OF ANNUAL SCREENING MAM-**
2 **MOGRAPHY BEGINNING AT 30 YEARS OF AGE.**

3 (a) COVERAGE UNDER MEDICARE.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1834(c) of the So-
5 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(c)) is amend-
6 ed—

7 (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or
8 (3)” after “paragraph (2)”;

9 (B) in paragraph (2)—

10 (i) by striking the paragraph heading
11 and inserting “FREQUENCY COVERED BE-
12 FORE JANUARY 1, 2026”; and

13 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
14 “Subject” and inserting “With respect to
15 screening mammography performed before
16 January 1, 2026, subject”; and

17 (C) by adding at the end the following new
18 paragraph:

19 “(3) FREQUENCY COVERED ON OR AFTER JAN-
20 UARY 1, 2026.—With respect to screening mammog-
21 raphy performed on or after January 1, 2026—

22 “(A) no payment may be made under this
23 part for screening mammography performed on
24 a woman under 30 years of age; and

25 “(B) in the case of a woman over 29 years
26 of age, payment may not be made under this

1 part for screening mammography performed
2 within 11 months following the month in which
3 a previous screening mammography was per-
4 formed.”.

5 (2) PROHIBITION OF COST SHARING.—Section
6 1833(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1395l(a)(1)) is amended—

8 (A) in subparagraph (Y), by inserting
9 “(other than screening mammography (as de-
10 fined in section 1861(jj)) performed on or after
11 January 1, 2026)” after “in the case of such
12 services described in subparagraph (A)”;

13 (B) in subparagraph (GG), by striking
14 “and” at the end; and

15 (C) by inserting “, and (II) with respect to
16 screening mammography (as defined in section
17 1861(jj)) performed on or after January 1,
18 2026, the amounts paid shall be shall be 100
19 percent of the lesser of the actual charge for
20 the services or the amount determined under
21 the fee schedule that applies to such services
22 under this part” before the semicolon at the
23 end.

1 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
2 1862(a)(1)(F) is amended by striking “section
3 1834(c)(2)” and inserting “section 1834(c)”.

4 (b) COVERAGE UNDER MEDICAID.—

5 (1) MANDATORY COVERAGE.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1902(a)(10)(A)
7 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1396a(a)(10)(A)) is amended by inserting
9 “(13)(D),” before “(17),”.

10 (B) MEDICALLY NEEDY.—Section
11 1902(a)(10)(C)(iv) of the Social Security Act
12 (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(C)(iv)) is amended by
13 inserting “(13)(D),” before “and (17)”.

14 (C) ALTERNATIVE BENEFIT PLANS.—Sec-
15 tion 1937(b) of the Social Security Act (42
16 U.S.C. 1396u-7(b)) is amended by adding at
17 the end the following new paragraph:

18 “(9) ANNUAL SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY.—
19 Notwithstanding the previous provisions of this sec-
20 tion, a State may not provide for medical assistance
21 through enrollment of an individual with benchmark
22 coverage or benchmark-equivalent coverage under
23 this section unless, beginning on January 1, 2026,
24 for any individual over age 29, such coverage in-
25 cludes (and does not impose any deduction, cost

1 sharing, or similar charge for) annual screening
2 mammography described in section
3 1905(a)(13)(D).”.

4 (2) INCLUSION UNDER DIAGNOSTIC, SCREEN-
5 ING, PREVENTIVE, AND REHABILITATIVE SERV-
6 ICES.—Section 1905(a)(13) of the Social Security
7 Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(13)) is amended—

8 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
9 “and” at the end;

10 (B) in subparagraph (C), by adding “and”
11 at the end; and

12 (C) by adding at the end the following new
13 subparagraph:

14 “(D) beginning January 1, 2026, for indi-
15 viduals over age 29, annual screening mammog-
16 raphy;”.

17 (3) PROHIBITION OF COST SHARING.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 1916 of the So-
19 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396o) is amend-
20 ed—

21 (i) in subsection (a)(2)—

22 (I) in subparagraph (I), by strik-
23 ing “or” at the end;

1 (II) in subparagraph (J), by
2 striking “; and” at the end and in-
3 serting “, or”; and

4 (III) by adding at the end the
5 following new subparagraph:

6 “(K) beginning January 1, 2026, annual
7 screening mammography described in section
8 1905(a)(13)(D); and”;

9 (ii) in subsection (b)(2)—

10 (I) in subparagraph (I), by strik-
11 ing “or” at the end;

12 (II) in subparagraph (J), by
13 striking “; and” at the end and in-
14 serting “, or”; and

15 (III) by adding at the end the
16 following new subparagraph:

17 “(K) beginning January 1, 2026, annual
18 screening mammography described in section
19 1905(a)(13)(D); and”.

20 (B) APPLICATION TO ALTERNATIVE COST
21 SHARING.—Section 1916A(b)(3)(B) of the So-
22 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396o–1(b)(3)(B))
23 is amended by adding at the end the following
24 new clause:

1 “(xv) Beginning January 1, 2026, an-
2 nual screening mammography described in
3 section 1905(a)(13)(D).”.

4 (c) COVERAGE UNDER GROUP HEALTH PLANS AND
5 GROUP AND INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2713(a) of the Pub-
7 lic Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg–13(a)) is
8 amended—

9 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking at the
10 end “and”;

11 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking at the
12 end the period and inserting “; and”; and

13 (C) in paragraph (4)—

14 (i) by striking at the end the period
15 and inserting “; and”;

16 (ii) by striking “women, such” and in-
17 serting “women—

18 “(A) such”; and

19 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
20 lowing new subparagraph:

21 “(B) in the case of a woman over 29 years
22 of age, annual mammography screening.”.

1 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
2 by this subsection shall apply to plan years begin-
3 ning on or after January 1, 2026.

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