

HR 1530

Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 23, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Apr 7, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1530>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-5]

Party: Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (13 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Mar 23, 2015
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Stivers, Steve [R-OH-15]	R · OH		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Apr 29, 2015
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		May 15, 2015
Rep. Heck, Joseph J. [R-NV-3]	R · NV		Sep 11, 2015
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Nov 19, 2015
Rep. Israel, Steve [D-NY-3]	D · NY		May 12, 2016
Rep. Ellmers, Renee L. [R-NC-2]	R · NC		Jul 6, 2016
Rep. Paulsen, Erik [R-MN-3]	R · MN		Sep 15, 2016
Rep. Boustany, Charles W., Jr. [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Sep 22, 2016
Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Nov 17, 2016
Rep. Scott, Austin [R-GA-8]	R · GA		Nov 17, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 27, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 7, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 829	Related bill	Mar 23, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Mar 23, 2015)

Medicare Orthotics and Prosthetics Improvement Act of 2015

This bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to prohibit payment under Medicare part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) for an item or service furnished: (1) in a state that requires licensure unless the provider or supplier possesses all applicable state licensure, or (2) in a state that does not require licensure unless the provider or supplier meets all qualifications established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The Secretary shall designate and approve independent accreditation organizations that apply quality standards for suppliers only if they are Boards for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification or essentially equivalent programs.

Special payment rules for certain prosthetics and custom-fabricated orthotics are extended to custom-fitted orthotics. Such rules do not apply, however, to off-the-shelf orthotics furnished on or after January 1, 2016, which are included in a competitive acquisition program.

Decisions about Medicare coverage of orthotics and prosthetics on or after January 1, 2016, must take into account the complexity of the item as well as supplier qualifications (which do not apply, however, to physicians, occupational therapists, or physical therapists state-licensed to provide such items).

Documentation created by an orthotist or prosthetist is considered part of the patient's medical record.

Requirements for suppliers of orthotics and prosthetics are separated from those for suppliers of durable medical equipment.

Orthotists and prosthetists must have a supplier number for Medicare payment to be made.

Patients are not liable for payment of furnished orthotics or prosthetics where payment may not be made or where payment is denied. Only the orthotists or prosthetists are liable in such circumstances.

The Secretary must publish on the Internet website of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services specified performance information about each recovery audit contractor (RAC).

The Secretary is prohibited from recouping more than 50% of any overpayments for qualified providers and hospitals in response to a RAC audit until an administrative law judge has rendered a decision.

The Secretary may recoup any overpayments, though, related to or resulting from fraudulent activity on the part of a Medicare provider or supplier.

Only the patient may make the minimal self-adjustment required to qualify off-the-shelf orthotics for Medicare coverage in a competitive acquisition program.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 7, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 27, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 23, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 23, 2015:** 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.