



(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for certain cognitive impairment detection in the Medicare annual wellness visit and initial preventive physical examination.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SÁNCHEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for certain cognitive impairment detection in the Medicare annual wellness visit and 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Concentrating on  
5 High-value Alzheimer’s Needs to Get to an End Act of  
6 2023” or the “CHANGE Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) It is estimated that 6.7 million Americans  
4 are living with Alzheimer's disease, a number that is  
5 estimated to rise to nearly 13.8 million by 2060.  
6 About 1 in 9 people age 65 and older have Alz-  
7 heimer's.

8 (2) Older Black Americans are twice as likely,  
9 and Latino Americans are 1.5 times as likely, to  
10 have Alzheimer's disease than older White Ameri-  
11 cans. Nearly two-thirds of Americans with Alz-  
12 heimer's disease are women.

13 (3) In 2021, Alzheimer's disease was the sev-  
14 enth-leading cause of death in America.

15 (4) Addressing modifiable risk factors for Alz-  
16 heimer's and other types of dementia such as hyper-  
17 tension, physical inactivity, smoking, depression, dia-  
18 betes, obesity, and poor nutrition might prevent or  
19 delay up to 40 percent of dementia cases. In 2021  
20 the National Plan to Addresses Alzheimer's disease  
21 was updated to include a new goal to focus on reduc-  
22 ing risk of developing dementia.

23 (5) An early documented diagnosis commu-  
24 nicated to the patient and caregiver, enables early  
25 access to care planning services and available med-  
26 ical and non-medical treatments, and optimizes pa-

1       tients' ability to build a care team, participate in  
2       support services, and enroll in clinical trials.

3           (6) Alzheimer's exacts an emotional and phys-  
4       ical toll on caregivers, resulting in higher incidence  
5       of heart disease, cancer, depression, and other health  
6       consequences.

7           (7) More than 11 million Americans provide un-  
8       paid care for people with Alzheimer's or other de-  
9       mentia and provided nearly \$340 billion in unpaid  
10      care to people living with Alzheimer's and other de-  
11      mentia in 2022.

12          (8) In 2023, it is estimated that Alzheimer's  
13      and related dementia will cost our nation \$345 bil-  
14      lion, not including the value of unpaid caregiving.  
15      By 2050, it is estimated that these direct costs will  
16      increase to nearly \$1 trillion.

17 **SEC. 3. COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT DETECTION BENEFIT IN**  
18                   **THE MEDICARE ANNUAL WELLNESS VISIT**  
19                   **AND INITIAL PREVENTIVE PHYSICAL EXAM-**  
20                   **INATION.**

21      (a) ANNUAL WELLNESS VISIT.—

22           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(hhh)(2) of the  
23      Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(hhh)(2)) is  
24      amended by striking subparagraph (D) and inserting  
25      the following:

1           “(D) Detection of any cognitive impair-  
2           ment that shall—

3                   “(i) be performed using one of the  
4                   cognitive impairment detection tools identi-  
5                   fied by the National Institute on Aging as  
6                   meeting its criteria for selecting instru-  
7                   ments to detect cognitive impairment in  
8                   the primary care setting; and

9                   “(ii) include documentation of the tool  
10                  used for detecting cognitive impairment  
11                  and results of the assessment in the pa-  
12                  tient’s medical record.”.

13           (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made  
14           by paragraph (1) shall apply to annual wellness vis-  
15           its furnished on or after January 1, 2024.

16           (b) INITIAL PREVENTIVE PHYSICAL EXAMINA-  
17           TION.—

18                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(ww)(1) of the  
19                   Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(ww)(1)) is  
20                   amended by striking “agreement with the individual,  
21                   and” and inserting “agreement with the individual,  
22                   detection of any cognitive impairment as described  
23                   in subsection (hhh)(2)(D), and”.

24                   (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made  
25                   by paragraph (1) shall apply to initial preventive

- 1 physical examinations furnished on or after January
- 2 1, 2024.