

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. _____

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to codify the Medicare low-wage index hospital policy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to codify the Medicare low-wage index hospital policy.

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 “Save Struggling Hos-
5 pitals Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CODIFICATION OF THE MEDICARE LOW-WAGE**
7 **INDEX HOSPITAL POLICY.**

8 Section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42
9 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)) is amended—

1 such application of budget neutrality
2 may not—

3 “(aa) decrease the area
4 wage index applicable under this
5 subparagraph to a hospital with
6 an area wage index (determined
7 without regard to this clause)
8 below the 75th percentile area
9 wage index for the fiscal year; or
10 “(bb) result in an area wage
11 index applicable under this sub-
12 paragraph to a hospital for such
13 fiscal year that is less than 95
14 percent of the area wage index
15 applicable under this subpara-
16 graph to such hospital for the
17 preceding fiscal year.”.