

AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF NEW YORK

Add at the end the following new section:

1 **SEC. 3. STUDY REGARDING THE EFFECTS OF CALCULATING**
2 **MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PAYMENT RATES ON**
3 **A REGIONAL AVERAGE OF MEDICARE FEE**
4 **FOR SERVICE RATES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Centers
6 for Medicare and Medicaid Services shall conduct a study
7 to determine the potential effects of calculating Medicare
8 Advantage payment rates on a more aggregated geo-
9 graphic basis (such as metropolitan statistical areas or
10 other regional delineations) rather than using county
11 boundaries. In conducting such study, the Administrator
12 shall consider the effect of such alternative geographic
13 basis on the following:

14 (1) The quality of care received by Medicare
15 Advantage enrollees.

16 (2) The networks of Medicare Advantage plans,
17 including any implications for providers contracting
18 with Medicare Advantage plans.

19 (3) The predictability of benchmark amounts
20 for Medicare advantage plans.

1 (b) CONSULTATIONS.—In conducting the study, the
2 Administrator shall consult with the following:

3 (1) Experts in health care financing.

4 (2) Representatives of foundations and other
5 nonprofit entities that have conducted or supported
6 research on Medicare financing issues.

7 (3) Representatives from Medicare Advantage
8 plans.

9 (4) Such other entities or people as determined
10 by the Secretary.

11 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
12 of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall
13 transmit a report to the Congress on the study conducted
14 under this section. The report shall contain a detailed
15 statement of findings and conclusions of the study, to-
16 gether with its recommendations for such legislation and
17 administrative actions as the Administrator considers ap-
18 propriate.

