

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT  
FOR H.R. 4435  
OFFERED BY MRS. ELLMERS OF NORTH  
CAROLINA**

Page 184, after line 13, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 715. PROVISION OF WRITTEN NOTICE OF CHANGE TO**  
2 **TRICARE BENEFITS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United  
4 States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1097c  
5 the following new section:

6 **“§ 1097d. TRICARE program: notice of change to ben-**  
7 **efits**

8 “(a) PROVISION OF NOTICE.—(1) If the Secretary  
9 makes a significant change to any benefits provided by the  
10 TRICARE program to covered beneficiaries, the Secretary  
11 shall provide individuals described in paragraph (2) with  
12 written notice explaining such changes.

13 “(2) The individuals described by this paragraph are  
14 covered beneficiaries and providers participating in the  
15 TRICARE program who may be affected by a significant  
16 change covered by a notification under paragraph (1).

17 “(3) The Secretary shall provide notice under para-  
18 graph (1) through electronic means.

1       “(b) TIMING OF NOTICE.—The Secretary shall pro-  
2 vide notice under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) by the  
3 earlier of the following dates:

4           “(1) The date that the Secretary determines  
5 would afford individuals described in paragraph (2)  
6 of such subsection adequate time to understand the  
7 change covered by the notification.

8           “(2) The date that is 90 days before the date  
9 on which the change covered by the notification be-  
10 comes effective.

11          “(3) The effective date of a significant change  
12 that is required by law.

13       “(c) SIGNIFICANT CHANGE DEFINED.—In this sec-  
14 tion, the term ‘significant change’ means a system-wide  
15 change—

16           “(1) in policy regarding services provided under  
17 the TRICARE program (not including the addition  
18 of new services or benefits); or

19           “(2) in payment rates of more than 20 per-  
20 cent.”.

21       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
22 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting

- 1 after the item relating to section 1097c the following new
- 2 item:

“1097d. TRICARE program: notice of change to benefits.”.

