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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to waive the application of certain conditions of payment and conditions of participation for home health services furnished in an emergency area during an emergency period, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to waive the application of certain conditions of payment and conditions of participation for home health services furnished in an emergency area during an emergency period, and for other purposes.

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 “Improving Care in  
5 Home Health Agencies Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN**  
2 **CONDITIONS OF PAYMENT AND CONDITIONS**  
3 **OF PARTICIPATION FOR HOME HEALTH**  
4 **SERVICES FURNISHED IN AN EMERGENCY**  
5 **AREA DURING AN EMERGENCY PERIOD.**

6 Section 1135(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.  
7 1320b– 5) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (7), by striking at the end  
9 “and”;

10 (2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at  
11 the end and inserting “; and”; and

12 (3) by inserting the following new paragraph:

13 “(9) in the case of a home health service (as de-  
14 fined in section 1861(m)) and the home health agen-  
15 cy documents the receipt of verbal orders issued by  
16 the physician, nurse practitioner, physician assist-  
17 ant, or clinical nurse specialist, as appropriate, with  
18 respect to such home health service, conditions of  
19 payment or conditions of participation that would  
20 otherwise require written—

21 “(A) signed and dated plan of treatment;

22 “(B) orders for care;

23 “(C) certification of benefit eligibility; or

24 “(D) documentation of a face-to-face en-  
25 counter.”.