

H.R. 3584 Summary

H.R. 3584 the Laboratory Access for Beneficiaries (LAB) Act Section by Section Summary

Sec. 1. Short Title

The short title of the bill is the Laboratory Access for Beneficiaries (LAB) Act

Sec. 2. Amendments Relating to Reporting Requirements with Respect to Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory Tests

(a) Revised Reporting Period for Reporting of Private Sector Payment Rates for Establishment of Medicare Payment Rates

This section amends the Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) to delay the next round of data reporting by one year from 2020 to 2021. Each subsequent year of data collection, reporting, and implementation of new rates is pushed back by one year to retain a three year cycle.

This section does not delay the current data *collection* period, which is ongoing from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019. The compiled private market data from this period will be the applicable data reported in the delayed, 2021 data reporting period.

(b) Corrections Relating to Phase-in of Reductions from Private Payor Rate Implementation

This section codifies technical corrections so that dates in the underlying statute reflect the one-year administrative delay implemented by CMS, which delayed the first data reporting period from 2016 to 2017 and the first year of PAMA rate implementation from 2017 to 2018.

Sec. 3. Study and Report by National Academy of Medicine

This section requires CMS to contract with the National Academy of Medicine within 90 days of the bill's enactment to conduct a study on:

- 1) How best to implement the least burdensome data collection process that would result in a representative and statistically valid data sample of private market rates from all laboratory market segments, including hospital outreach laboratories, physician office laboratories, and independent laboratories, and that would consider the variability of market segments by laboratory procedure code; and
- 2) An appropriate rate-setting methodology that is representative of the market and ensures sustainable patient access.

NAM will report the results of the study to the relevant Congressional committees within 18 months of entering into an agreement with CMS to conduct the study.