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(Original Signature of Member)

111TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an option for any citizen or permanent resident of the United States to buy into Medicare.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. GRAYSON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an option for any citizen or permanent resident of the United States to buy into Medicare.

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 “Public Option Act”
5 or the “Medicare You Can Buy Into Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. UNIVERSAL MEDICARE BUY-IN OPTION. (a)** IN GEN-

2 ERAL.—**Part A of title XVIII of the Social Security**

3 **Act is amended—**

4 (1) in section 1818(a), by striking “or 1818A”
5 and inserting “, 1818A, or 1818B”; and

6 (2) by inserting after section 1818A the fol-
7 lowing new section:

8 “UNIVERSAL BUY-IN

9 “SEC. 1818B.

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—(a) Every individual who—

11 “(1) is a resident of the United States;

12 “(2) is either (A) a citizen or national of the
13 United States, or (B) an alien lawfully admitted for
14 permanent residence; and

15 “(3) is not otherwise entitled to benefits under
16 this part or eligible to enroll under this part;

17 shall be eligible to enroll in the insurance program estab-
18 lished by this part. An individual may enroll under this
19 section only in such manner and form as may be pre-
20 scribed in regulations, and only during an enrollment pe-
21 riod prescribed in or under this section.

22 “(b) ENROLLMENT; COVERAGE.—The Secretary shall
23 establish enrollment periods and coverage under this sec-
24 tion consistent with the principles for establishment of en-
25 rollment periods and coverage for individuals under sec-
26 tion 1818, except that no entitlement to benefits under

1 this part shall be effective before the first day of the first
2 calendar year beginning after the date of the enactment
3 of this Act.

4 “(c) PREMIUMS.—

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of sub-
6 sections (d)(1), (d)(2), and (d)(3) of section 1818
7 insofar as they apply to premiums (including collec-
8 tion of premiums) shall apply to premiums and col-
9 lection of premiums under this section, except
10 that—

11 “(A) paragraphs (4) and (5) of section
12 1818 shall not be applicable; and

13 “(B) the estimate of the monthly actuarial
14 rate under section 1818(d) shall be computed
15 and applied under this paragraph based upon
16 costs incurred for individuals within each age
17 cohort specified in paragraph (2) rather than
18 for all individuals age 65 and older.

19 “(2) AGE COHORTS.—The age cohorts specified
20 in this paragraph are as follows:

21 “(A) Individuals under 19 years of age.

22 “(B) Individuals at least 19 years of age
23 but not more than 25 years of age.

24 “(C) Individuals at least 26 years of age
25 and not more than 35 years of age.

1 “(D) Individuals at least 36 years of age
2 and not more than 45 years of age.

3 “(E) Individuals at least 46 years of age
4 and not more than 55 years of age.

5 “(F) Individuals at least 56 years of age
6 and not more than 64 years of age.

7 “(d) TREATMENT.—An individual enrolled under this
8 part pursuant to this section shall not be treated as en-
9 rolled under this part (or any other part of this title) for
10 purposes of obtaining medical assistance for medicare
11 cost-sharing or otherwise under title XIX.”.