

**[Demonstration project for the coverage of self-injected biologics
for beneficiaries with rheumatoid arthritis]**

**AMENDMENT TO MR. TAUZIN'S AMENDMENT
OFFERED BY MR. PICKERING**

(Page & line nos. refer to Chairman's Mark of June 17, 2003)

At the end of title VI (page 223, after line 31) insert the following new section (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

1 **SEC. 629. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR COVERAGE**
2 **OF SELF-INJECTED BIOLOGICS FOR RHEU-**
3 **MATOID ARTHRITIS.**

4 (a) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT.—The Secretary shall con-
5 duct a demonstration project under part B of title XVIII of the
6 Social Security Act under which payment is made for self-in-
7 jected biologics (approved by the Food and Drug Administra-
8 tion) prescribed for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis that
9 are prescribed as replacements for drugs and biologicals de-
10 scribed in section 1861(s)(2)(A) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
11 1395x(s)(2)(A)) for which payment is made under such part.

12 (b) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT SITES.—The project estab-
13 lished under this section shall be conducted in 3 States selected
14 by the Secretary.

15 (c) DURATION.—The Secretary shall conduct the dem-
16 onstration project for the 2-year period beginning on the date
17 that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

18 (d) REPORT.—(1) Not later than January 1, 2006, the
19 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the project. The
20 report shall include an evaluation of patient access to care and
21 patient outcomes under the project, as well as an analysis of
22 the cost effectiveness of the project, including an evaluation of
23 the costs savings (if any) to the medicare program attributable
24 to reduced physicians' services and hospital outpatient depart-
25 ments services for administration of the biological.

26 (2) The Secretary may use findings from the report under
27 paragraph (1) in determining appropriate settings for the ad-



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- 1 ministration of biologics (approved by the Food and Drug Ad-
- 2 ministration) prescribed for medicare beneficiaries for the
- 3 treatment of rheumatoid arthritis.

