

Monday 1:46pm
B

AMENDMENT

OFFERED BY MR. GENE GREEN OF TEXAS

Add at the end of subtitle C of title II of division
B the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . PHASE-OUT OF WAITING PERIOD FOR MEDICARE**
2 **DISABILITY BENEFITS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 226(b) of the Social Secu-
4 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 426(b)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “, and has
6 for 24 calendar months been entitled to,” and insert-
7 ing “, and for the waiting period (as defined in sub-
8 section (k)) has been entitled to,”;

9 (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “, and has
10 been for not less than 24 months,” and inserting “,
11 and has been for the waiting period (as defined in
12 subsection (k)),”;

13 (3) in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), by striking “, in-
14 cluding the requirement that he has been entitled to
15 the specified benefits for 24 months,” and inserting
16 “, including the requirement that the individual has
17 been entitled to the specified benefits for the waiting
18 period (as defined in subsection (k)),”; and

1 (4) in the flush matter following paragraph
2 (2)(C)(ii)(II)—

3 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “for
4 each month beginning with the later of (I) July
5 1973 or (II) the twenty-fifth month of his enti-
6 tlement or status as a qualified railroad retire-
7 ment beneficiary described in paragraph (2),
8 and” and inserting “for each month beginning
9 after the waiting period (as so defined) for
10 which the individual satisfies paragraph (2)
11 and”;

12 (B) in the second sentence, by striking
13 “the ‘twenty-fifth month of his entitlement’ re-
14 fers to the first month after the twenty-fourth
15 month of entitlement to specified benefits re-
16 ferred to in paragraph (2)(C) and”; and

17 (C) in the third sentence, by striking “,
18 but not in excess of 78 such months”.

19 (b) SCHEDULE FOR PHASE-OUT OF WAITING PE-
20 RIOD.—Section 226 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
21 426) is amended by adding at the end the following new
22 subsection:

23 “(k) For purposes of subsection (b) (and for purposes
24 of section 1837(g)(1) of this Act and section 7(d)(2)(ii)

1 of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974), the term ‘waiting
2 period’ means—

3 “(1) for each of 2010 through 2012, 24
4 months;

5 “(2) for 2013, 18 months;

6 “(3) for 2014, 16 months;

7 “(4) for 2015, 14 months;

8 “(5) for 2016, 12 months;

9 “(6) for 2017, 10 months;

10 “(7) for 2018, 8 months;

11 “(8) for 2019, 6 months;

12 “(9) for 2020, 4 months;

13 “(10) for 2021, 2 months; and

14 “(11) for 2022 and each subsequent year, 0
15 months.”.

16 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

17 (1) SUNSET.—Effective January 1, 2022, sub-
18 section (f) of section 226 of the Social Security Act
19 (42 U.S.C. 426) is repealed.

20 (2) MEDICARE DESCRIPTION.—Section 1811(2)
21 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395c(2)) is amended by
22 striking “entitled for not less than 24 months” and
23 inserting “entitled for the waiting period (as defined
24 in section 226(k))”.

1 (3) MEDICARE COVERAGE.—Section 1837(g)(1)
2 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395p(g)(1)) is amended by
3 striking “of the later of (A) April 1973 or (B) the
4 third month before the 25th month of such entitle-
5 ment” and inserting “of the third month before the
6 first month following the waiting period (as defined
7 in section 226(k)) applicable under section 226(b)”.

8 (4) RAILROAD RETIREMENT SYSTEM.—Section
9 7(d)(2)(ii) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974
10 (45 U.S.C. 231f(d)(2)(ii)) is amended—

11 (A) by striking “, for not less than 24
12 months” and inserting “, for the waiting period
13 (as defined in section 226(k) of the Social Secu-
14 rity Act); and

15 (B) by striking “could have been entitled
16 for 24 calendar months, and” and inserting
17 “could have been entitled for the waiting period
18 (as defined in section 226(k) of the Social Secu-
19 rity Act), and”.

20 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in sub-
21 section (c)(1), the amendments made by this section shall
22 apply to insurance benefits under title XVIII of the Social
23 Security Act with respect to items and services furnished
24 in months beginning at least 90 days after the date of

1 the enactment of this Act (but in no case earlier than Jan-
2 uary 1, 2010).



