***Federal Proposal 2017***

Proposal Name: **COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT**

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**SUBJECT:**

**UNDER THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, BENEFICIARIES ARE ENTITLED TO AN ANNUAL WELLNESS VISIT THAT INCLUDES A COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT.**

**UNDER THE FEDERAL & STATE PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT, MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES ARE ENTITLED TO AN ANNUAL WELLNESS VISIT THAT INCLUDES A COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT.**

**THIS MEASURE WOULD MEMORIALIZE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE MEDICARE PATIENTS TO BE OFFERED, AS PART OF THIS BENEFIT, AN OBJECTIVE, COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT THAT IS CAPABLE OF ACCURATELY DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT AND NORMAL AGING.**

**UNDER EXISTING LAW, DOCTORS BILL MEDICARE FOR AN OBJECTIVE COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT THAT IS OF SUFFICIENT ACCURACY TO BE APPROVED BY MEDICARE. THE PROPOSED MEASURE WOULD THEREFORE NOT INTRODUCE NEW COSTS. BY DETECTING MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT EARLY, AND THEN PREVENTING OR MINIMIZING THE AVERAGE OF 7 YEARS OF DEMENTIA, THE POTENTIAL MEDICARE SAVINGS IN DIRECT, DEMENTIA-RELATED COSTS PER AFFECTED BENEFICIARY IS $10,000 PER YEAR, AND PER AFFECTED MEDICAID BENEFICIARY IS $9,000 PER YEAR.**