

Section1; Short title: Protecting Access to Lifesaving Screenings Act (PALS Act)

1 **SEC. 2. PROTECTING COVERAGE FOR SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Effective during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this
3 Act and ending January 1, 2018, any provision of law that refers (including through cross-
4 reference to another provision of law) to the current recommendations of the United States
5 Preventive Services Task Force with respect to breast cancer screening, mammography, and
6 prevention shall be administered by the Secretary involved as if—

7 (1) such reference to such current recommendations were a reference to the
8 recommendations of such Task Force with respect to breast cancer screening, mammography,
9 and prevention last issued before 2009; and

10 (2) such recommendations last issued before 2009 applied to any screening mammography
11 modality under section 1861(jj) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(jj)).

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13 (b) CONTINUING MEDICARE COVERAGE WITHOUT COINSURANCE.—Section 1833(a)(1)(Y) of
14 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(Y)) is amended by inserting after “in the case of
15 such services described in subparagraph (A)” the following: “(other than screening
16 mammography)”.

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18 (c) MAINTAINING FREQUENCY OF MEDICARE COVERAGE.—Section 1834(c)(2)(B)(ii) of the
19 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(c)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended by inserting before the period at
20 the end the following: “, except that in the case of a woman over 39 years of age, such revision
21 may not decrease such frequency”.

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23 (d) CLARIFYING THE DEFINITION OF “SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY”.—Section 1861(jj) of the
24 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(jj)) is amended by inserting “, including any digital
25 modality of such a procedure,” after “radiologic procedure”.