

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2646
OFFERED BY M__ . _____**

Add at the appropriate place the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ENCOURAGING MORE PSY-**
2 **CHIATRISTS TO ACCEPT HEALTH INSUR-**
3 **ANCE.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

5 (1) There is a shortage of mental health pro-
6 viders in the United States.

7 (2) The majority of Americans, including those
8 with mental illness, rely on health insurance to ac-
9 cess the health care services they need.

10 (3) According to a January 2015 study in
11 JAMA Psychiatry, the percentage of psychiatrists
12 accepting insurance coverage was significantly lower
13 than the percentage of physicians in other special-
14 ties.

15 (A) In 2009 through 2010, 55.3 percent of
16 psychiatrists accepted private non-capitated in-
17 surance compared to 88.7 percent of other phy-
18 sicians.

1 (B) In 2009 through 2010, 54.8 percent of
2 psychiatrists accepted Medicare compared to
3 86.1 percent of other physicians.

4 (C) In 2009 through 2010, 43.1 percent of
5 psychiatrists accepted Medicaid compared to 73
6 percent of other physicians.

7 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
8 gress that—

9 (1) The failure of mental health providers to ac-
10 cept health insurance restricts access to the already
11 limited supply of mental health providers.

12 (2) To ensure that individuals with mental ill-
13 ness, including serious mental illness, have adequate
14 access to the mental health services they need, men-
15 tal health providers should accept health insurance.

16 (3) To ensure that individuals with mental ill-
17 ness have adequate access to the mental health serv-
18 ices they need, insurers should ensure robust net-
19 works and reimbursement rates that attract partici-
20 pation by more mental health providers.

21 (4) As the medical specialty that specializes in
22 the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental
23 health problems, psychiatrists should accept private
24 health insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid.

