

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 131

To amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 30, 2023

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Access to
5 Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act
6 of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS AND NURSE**
2 **PRACTITIONERS IN FEDERAL EMPLOYEES'**
3 **COMPENSATION ACT.**

4 (a) INCLUSION.—Section 8101 of title 5, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, other eligi-
7 ble providers,” after “osteopathic practitioners”;

8 (2) by striking “and” at the end of paragraphs
9 (18) and (19);

10 (3) by striking the period at the end of para-
11 graph (20) and inserting “; and”; and

12 (4) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(21) ‘other eligible provider’ means a nurse
14 practitioner or physician assistant within the scope
15 of their practice as defined by State law.”.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 81 of
17 title 5, United States Code, is amended—

18 (1) in section 8103(a)—

19 (A) by inserting “or other eligible pro-
20 vider” after “physician” in each instance; and

21 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or
22 other eligible providers” after “physicians”;

23 (2) in section 8121(6), by inserting “or other
24 eligible provider” after “physician”; and

25 (3) in section 8123(a)—

1 (A) by inserting “or other eligible pro-
2 vider” after “The employee may have a physi-
3 cian”; and

4 (B) by inserting “or other eligible pro-
5 vider” after “United States and the physician”.

6 (c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 6 months after
7 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall final-
8 ize rules to carry out the amendments made by this Act.

9 **SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

10 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
11 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
12 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
13 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
14 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
15 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-
16 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
17 vote on passage.

○