**Excerpt from American Tax Relief Act of 2012**

‘(D) SATISFACTORY REPORTING MEASURES THROUGH

PARTICIPATION IN A QUALIFIED CLINICAL DATA REGISTRY.—

For 2014 and subsequent years, the Secretary shall treat H. R. 8—34

an eligible professional as satisfactorily submitting data

on quality measures under subparagraph (A) if, in lieu

of reporting measures under subsection (k)(2)(C), the

eligible professional is satisfactorily participating,

as determined by the Secretary, in a qualified clinical data registry

(as described in subparagraph (E)) for the year.

(E) QUALIFIED CLINICAL DATA REGISTRY.—

‘‘(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish

requirements for an entity to be considered a qualified

clinical data registry. Such requirements shall include

a requirement that the entity provide the Secretary

with such information, at such times, and in such

manner, as the Secretary determines necessary to carry

out this subsection.

‘‘(ii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing the requirements under clause (i), the Secretary shall consider

whether an entity—

‘‘(I) has in place mechanisms for the transparency of data elements and specifications, risk

models, and measures;

‘‘(II) requires the submission of data from

participants with respect to multiple payers;

‘‘(III) provides timely performance reports to

participants at the individual participant level; and

‘‘(IV) supports quality improvement initiatives

for participants.

‘‘(iii) MEASURES.—With respect to measures used

by a qualified clinical data registry—

‘‘(I) sections 1890(b)(7) and 1890A(a) shall not

apply; and

‘‘(II) measures endorsed by the entity with

a contract with the Secretary under section 1890(a)

may be used.

‘‘(iv) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this subparagraph, the Secretary shall consult with interested parties.

‘‘(v) DETERMINATION.—The Secretary shall establish a process to determine whether or not an entity

meets the requirements established under clause (i).

Such process may involve one or both of the following:

‘‘(I) A determination by the Secretary.

‘‘(II) A designation by the Secretary of one

or more independent organizations to make such

determination.’’.