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21st Century Medicare Act

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Health
Introduced: Jul 15, 2002
Current Status: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 497.
Latest Action: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 497. (Jul 16, 2002)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]
Party: Republican • **State:** IA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]	R · NM		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Hutchinson, Tim [R-AR]	R · AR		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jul 15, 2002
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	R · CO		Jul 23, 2002

Committee Activity

No committee referrals or activity are recorded for this bill.

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
107 S 2729	Identical bill	**Jul 15, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Jul 15, 2002)

21st Century Medicare Act - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to establish: (1) a Voluntary Prescription Drug Delivery Program under a new part D; and (2) a Prescription Drug Account in the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund. Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish: (1) within the Department of HHS the Medicare Competitive Agency, headed by an Administrator charged with carrying out Medicare parts D and C (Medicare+Choice); and (2) within the Agency an Office of Beneficiary Assistance to carry out functions relating to Medicare beneficiaries. Creates a Medicare Ombudsman in such Office. Establishes within the Medicare Competitive Agency the Medicare Competitive Policy Advisory Board.

Directs the Administrator of the Medicare Competitive Agency to study and report to Congress on the need for rules relating to permitting individuals who are enrolled under Medicare part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) but are not entitled to benefits under Medicare part A (Hospital Insurance) to buy into the Medicare voluntary prescription drug delivery program.

Amends SSA title XVIII with respect to the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund to require the Board of Trustees of the Trust Fund to submit to Congress a combined report on the operation and status of the Trust Fund and the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, including the Prescription Drug Account within such Trust Fund.

Expands the membership and duties of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPAC).

Directs the Secretary to establish procedures under which each eligible beneficiary shall be entitled to elect to receive enhanced Medicare benefits under a new Medicare part E (Enhanced Medicare Benefits) instead of the benefits under Medicare parts A and B.

Sets forth rules relating to Medicare supplemental insurance (Medigap) policies that provide prescription drug coverage, such as prohibiting the sale, issuance, and renewal of policies that provide prescription drug coverage to part D enrollees.

Amends SSA title XVIII part C to provide for competition under the Medicare+Choice program and part D and E benefits under competitive Medicare+Choice plans.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 16, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S6856-6858)
- **Jul 16, 2002:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 497.
- **Jul 15, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 15, 2002:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.

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