

S 2679

Health Insurance Access Act of 2002

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jun 25, 2002

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jun 25, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/2679>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	R · OR		Jun 25, 2002
Sen. Torricelli, Robert G. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 16, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 25, 2002

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 25, 2002)

Health Insurance Access Act of 2002 - Amends the Internal Revenue Code to create, for qualified small businesses (up to 50 employees) providing health insurance coverage to all qualified employees, an employee health insurance expenses credit of up to 50 percent of qualified employee health insurance expenses. Includes with the definition of employee a leased employee and an employee reasonably expected to receive at least \$5,000 of compensation annually.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program to award grants to eligible entities to facilitate the development, establishment, and capacity of State-based or State-directed health plan purchasing alliances to create greater access to lower-cost health benefits for small employers.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program to award grants of up to \$ 1 million to each State that has not created, as of enactment, a qualified high risk pool for the State's costs of creation and initial operation of such a pool.

Amends titles XIX (Medicaid) and XXI (State Children's Health Insurance) (SCHIP) of the Social Security Act to provide optional coverage for parents with Medicaid eligible children and low-income pregnant women. Provides for the automatic enrollment of eligible children upon birth.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage for an individual between the ages of 62 to 65 who would be eligible for benefits if such individual were 65 and is not eligible for other group health insurance.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 25, 2002:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 25, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S6026-6027)
- **Jun 25, 2002:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.