

S 858

Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2001

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 9, 2001

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (May 9, 2001)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/senate-bill/858

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hutchinson, Tim [R-AR]

Party: Republican • State: AR • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO]	R · MO		May 10, 2001
Sen. Smith, Bob [R-NH]	R · NH		Sep 4, 2001
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	R · KS		Jul 31, 2002
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Sep 25, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 9, 2001

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Summary (as of May 9, 2001)

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Small Business Health Fairness Act of 2001 - Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to revise provisions relating to access and choice for small business employers with respect to medical care for their employees.

Establishes rules governing association health plans (group health plans whose sponsors are trade, industry, professional, chamber of commerce, or similar business associations), including requirements relating to certification, sponsors and boards of trustees, participation, coverage, plan documents, contribution rates, benefit options, applications for certification, notice for voluntary termination, corrective actions, and mandatory termination.

Requires association health plans which provide health benefits in addition to health insurance coverage to maintain certain reserves and comply with other solvency requirements. Directs the Secretary of Labor to apply for appointment, and carry out specified duties, as trustee of any such insolvent association health plans which provide health benefits in addition to health insurance coverage.

Allows a State to impose a contribution tax on any association health plan commencing operations in such State after the enactment of this Act.

Requires association health plans to include in their summary plan descriptions, in connection with each benefit option, a description of the form of any solvency or guarantee fund protection secured under ERISA or applicable State law.

Revises requirements relating to treatment of: (1) single employer arrangements; and (2) certain collectively bargained arrangements.

Sets forth requirements for association health plans with respect to: (1) enforcement; (2) cooperation between Federal and State authorities; and (3) treatment of certain existing health benefit programs.

## Actions Timeline

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- **May 9, 2001:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 9, 2001:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.