

S 1142

Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2003

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** May 23, 2003

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7139-7142)

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7139-7142)  
(May 23, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1142>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		May 23, 2003
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		May 23, 2003
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		May 23, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		May 23, 2003
Sen. Daschle, Thomas A. [D-SD]	D · SD		May 23, 2003
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		May 23, 2003
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		May 23, 2003
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		May 23, 2003
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 23, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 23, 2003
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Jul 23, 2003
Sen. Nelson, Ben [D-NE]	D · NE		Jul 23, 2003
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 31, 2003
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Jul 31, 2003
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jul 31, 2003
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		May 21, 2004
Sen. Hagel, Chuck [R-NE]	R · NE		May 21, 2004
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 8, 2004
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 22, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 23, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 4622	Related bill	Jul 7, 2004: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of May 23, 2003)

Children's Dental Health Improvement Act of 2003 - Amends title V (Maternal and Child Health Services) of the Social Security Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States to improve dental services to children enrolled in Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).

Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary, acting through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to establish a grant program to expand the availability of primary dental care services in medically underserved areas. Authorizes retention bonuses for eligible dental officers of the Indian Health Service.

Requires the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of HRSA and the Director of the Indian Health Service, to establish demonstration projects to increase access to dental services for children in underserved areas.

Directs the Secretary to establish: (1) an oral health initiative to reduce disparities in oral health; and (2) Chief Dental Officers for Medicaid and SCHIP, HRSA, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Requires the Director of the CDC to collect data on dental, craniofacial, and oral health.

Requires the Secretary to identify populations at high risk for early childhood caries (tooth decay) and to develop prevention programs.

Revises the eligibility requirements for the school-based dental sealant program to include Indian tribes.

Directs the Secretary, acting through the Director of the CDC, to award grants to States and Indian tribes to improve their basic capacity to improve the oral health of children and their families.

Actions Timeline

- **May 23, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 23, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S7137-7139)
- **May 23, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7139-7142)