

## S 1153

### Veterans Prescription Drugs Assistance Act

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** May 23, 2003

**Current Status:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 817.

**Latest Action:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 817. (Nov 19, 2004)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1153>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO]	R · MO		May 23, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 3, 2003
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Jun 10, 2003
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 12, 2003
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jun 24, 2003
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	R · OR		Jul 9, 2003
Sen. Bennett, Robert F. [R-UT]	R · UT		Jul 22, 2003

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Nov 20, 2004

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Veterans Prescription Drugs Assistance Act - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish such drugs and medicines as may be ordered on prescription of a duly licensed physician as specific therapy in the treatment of any illness or injury suffered by each veteran who is receiving additional compensation or allowance due to a service-connected disability, or increased pension as a veteran of a period of war, by reason of being permanently housebound or in need of regular aid and attendance.

Allows any Medicare-eligible veteran to elect to be furnished by the Secretary, on an outpatient basis, such drugs and medicines as ordered on prescription of a duly licensed physician as specific therapy for any illness or injury suffered by the veteran. Requires such election to last for a calendar year and to be irrevocable. Allows for election renewal. Requires appropriate information to be furnished to each veteran prior to such election.

Authorizes the Secretary to administer immunizations to voluntary eligible veterans in connection with the provision of care in any Department of Veterans Affairs health care facility.

Provides for appropriate copayments for the drugs and medicines received by veterans under authority of this Act.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Nov 19, 2004:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Reported by Senator Specter with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-419. Minority views filed.
- **Nov 19, 2004:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Reported by Senator Specter with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 108-419. Minority views filed.
- **Nov 19, 2004:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 817.
- **Jul 20, 2004:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jun 22, 2004:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held.
- **May 23, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 23, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S7147-7148)
- **May 23, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S7148)