

S 2562

Medicare Quality Improvement Act of 2004

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jun 23, 2004

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (consideration: CR 6/24/2004 S7315-7320)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (consideration: CR 6/24/2004 S7315-7320) (Jun 23, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/2562>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 23, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Medicare Quality Improvement Act of 2004 - Amends part C (Medicare+Choice) of title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA), as amended by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a quality performance incentive payment program to provide annual financial incentive payments, consisting of National Performance Quality Payments and National Quality Improvement Payments, to Medicare Advantage organizations offering Medicare Advantage plans and organizations providing benefits under a reasonable cost reimbursement contract that demonstrate superior quality health care to enrollees. Provides for a reduction in payments to such organizations in order to fund the program.

Directs the Secretary to establish a corresponding renal dialysis performance incentive payment program, also including National Performance Quality Payments and National Quality Improvement Payments.

Requires the Secretary to establish a program for award of bonus payments to Medicare providers that demonstrate innovative practices, structural improvements, or capacity enhancements that improve the quality of health care provided Medicare beneficiaries.

Directs the Secretary to conduct a three-year demonstration program of projects for pediatric dialysis facilities.

Requires the Secretary to establish a Medicare Quality Advisory Board.

Requires a Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPAC) study and report to Congress on the use of adjuster mechanisms under the Medicare quality performance incentive payment programs.

Directs the Secretary to conduct a three-year demonstration program to measure the quality of health care furnished to individuals under 18 years of age under the SSA title XIX (Medicaid) and title XXI (SCHIP) programs.

Authorizes the Secretary to hire five full-time employees within the Center for Medicaid and State Operations from among health professionals experienced in quality improvement, chronic care management, and care coordination (at least one of them also experienced with pediatric populations).

Requires the Secretary to study and report to Congress on the efforts to coordinate and integrate data from the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Directs MEDPAC to study and report to Congress on care coordination programs for Medicare and Medicaid dual-eligibles.

Requires the Secretary to establish a five-year program of grants for demonstration projects to develop and use Medical Smart Cards and examine their impact on health care costs, quality of care, and patient safety.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 23, 2004:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 23, 2004:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR 6/24/2004 S7313-7315)
- **Jun 23, 2004:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (consideration: CR 6/24/2004 S7315-7320)