

S 486

Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 27, 2003

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S2972-2973) (Feb 27, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/486>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]

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

Cosponsors (69 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennett, Robert F. [R-UT]	R · UT		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Chafee, Lincoln [R-RI]	R · RI		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Coleman, Norm [R-MN]	R · MN		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Daschle, Thomas A. [D-SD]	D · SD		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Edwards, John [D-NC]	D · NC		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Lugar, Richard G. [R-IN]	R · IN		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Reid, Harry [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Thomas, Craig [R-WY]	R · WY		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Warner, John [R-VA]	R · VA		Feb 27, 2003
Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Biden, Joseph R., Jr. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	R · OH		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]	D · ND		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]	D · LA		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Lieberman, Joseph I. [D-CT]	D · CT		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]	D · WV		Mar 7, 2003

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 7, 2003
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Kohl, Herb [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Sarbanes, Paul S. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 24, 2003
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Mar 24, 2003
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Mar 24, 2003
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 7, 2003
Sen. Nelson, Ben [D-NE]	D · NE		Apr 7, 2003
Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]	D · LA		May 6, 2003
Sen. Byrd, Robert C. [D-WV]	D · WV		May 6, 2003
Sen. Miller, Zell [D-GA]	D · GA		May 6, 2003
Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]	D · ND		May 19, 2003
Sen. Graham, Bob [D-FL]	D · FL		May 19, 2003
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		May 19, 2003
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Jun 20, 2003
Sen. Fitzgerald, Peter [R-IL]	R · IL		Jun 20, 2003
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	R · OR		Jul 14, 2003
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 29, 2003
Sen. Burns, Conrad R. [R-MT]	R · MT		Nov 13, 2003
Sen. Campbell, Ben Nighthorse [R-CO]	R · CO		Mar 25, 2004
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Sep 10, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 27, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 S 1832	Related bill	May 19, 2004: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S5730, S5731, S5732-5733)

Senator Paul Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act of 2003 - Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to prohibit certain employee group health plans or related insurances providing both medical-surgical and mental health benefits from imposing mental health treatment limitations or financial requirements unless comparable limitations and requirements are imposed upon medical-surgical benefits. States that the foregoing shall not be construed as requiring a group health plan (or related insurances) to: (1) provide any mental health benefits; (2) prevent the medical management of mental health benefits; or (3) require the provision of specific mental health services, except to the extent that failure to provide such services would result in a disparity between the coverage of mental health and medical-surgical benefits.

Exempts specified small employers from such requirements.

Requires that, in the case of a group health plan that offers a participant or beneficiary two or more benefit package options, the coverage requirements shall be applied separately with respect to each such option.

Provides that, in the case of a plan or insurance providing in-network mental health benefits, out-of-network mental health benefits need not be provided at parity to medical-surgical benefits, as long as in-network mental health benefits are provided at parity with medical-surgical benefits and the plan or insurance provides reasonable access to in-network providers and facilities.

Requires a General Accounting Office study of such requirements' effects upon health insurance costs, access, and quality and a cost estimation of extending such requirements to the treatment of substance abuse and chemical dependency.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 27, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S2971-2972)
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S2972-2973)