

S 654

Medicare Safety Net Access Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 18, 2003

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Mar 18, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/654>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO]	R · MO		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D · SC		Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 7, 2003
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	R · OR		Apr 7, 2003
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 29, 2003
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Apr 30, 2003
Sen. Chafee, Lincoln [R-RI]	R · RI		May 20, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 20, 2003
Sen. Clinton, Hillary Rodham [D-NY]	D · NY		May 22, 2003
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		May 23, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 19, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 1377	Identical bill	Apr 10, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Chairman.

Summary (as of Mar 18, 2003)

Medicare Safety Net Access Act of 2003 - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to: (1) provide for coverage of Medicare-covered ambulatory services by Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs); and (2) ensure FQHC reimbursement under hospital and skilled nursing facility prospective payment systems.

Amends SSA title XI with respect to criminal penalties for acts involving Federal health care programs, particularly illegal remunerations (kickbacks). Exempts from the prohibition against such remunerations any remuneration: (1) between a certain kind of public or nonprofit private health center entity and any individual or entity providing goods, items, services, donations, loans, or a combination, to such health center entity pursuant to an agreement, if such agreement contributes to the ability of the health center entity to maintain or increase the availability, or enhance the quality, of services provided to a medically underserved population served by the health center entity; and (2) between a FQHC (or an entity controlled by such a health center) and a Medicare+Choice organization pursuant to a specified written agreement.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish standards relating to the exception for health center entity arrangements to specified anti-kickback penalties.

Amends SSA title XVIII to revise the payment for certain FQHC services furnished to an individual enrolled with a Medicare+Choice organization under Medicare part C (Medicare+Choice), allowing for supplemental reimbursement, among other changes.

Amends Medicare+Choice to add additional Medicare+Choice contract requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 18, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 18, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3901-3902)
- **Mar 18, 2003:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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