

S 1355

Better Healthcare Through Information Technology Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jun 30, 2005

Current Status: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8420)

Latest Action: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8420) (Jul 18, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1355>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Enzi, Michael B. [R-WY]

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

Cosponsors (23 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]	R · VA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Burns, Conrad R. [R-MT]	R · MT		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. DeMint, Jim [R-SC]	R · SC		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	R · OH		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Jeffords, James M. [I-VT]	I · VT		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	R · PA		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Thomas, Craig [R-WY]	R · WY		Jun 30, 2005
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jul 13, 2005
Sen. Hagel, Chuck [R-NE]	R · NE		Jul 13, 2005
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 26, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 30, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 S 1418	Related bill	Dec 16, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Jun 30, 2005)

Better Healthcare Through Information Technology Act - Amends the Public Health Service Act to establish the Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology to develop a nationwide interoperable health information technology infrastructure.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish the public-private American Health Information Collaborative to recommend to the President uniform policies to support the widespread adoption of health information technology and modifications to standards for the electronic exchange of health information. Requires the President to review and, if appropriate, provide for the adoption of such standards.

Prohibits any federal agency from expending federal funds to purchase hardware, software, or support services that are inconsistent with adopted standards. Requires all federal agencies collecting health data to comply with the adopted standards.

Requires the Secretary to develop criteria to: (1) ensure uniform and consistent implementation of any standards voluntarily adopted by private entities; and (2) ensure and certify hardware, software, and support services compliance with adopted standards.

Allows the Secretary to award grants to: (1) facilitate the purchase and enhance the utilization of qualified health information technology systems; and (2) carry out demonstration projects to develop academic programs integrating qualified health information technology systems in the clinical education of health professionals.

Requires the Secretary to: (1) develop quality measurement systems for the purposes of measuring the quality of care patients receive; and (2) study methods to create efficient reimbursement incentives for improving health care quality.

Requires the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research (AHRQ), to develop a Center for Best Practices for the effective use health information technology.

Allows the Director of AHRQ to establish a demonstration program to award grants or contracts to support health information network planning, implementation, and evaluation activities.

Amends the Social Security Act to allow physicians to receive financial support regarding the electronic exchange of health information.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 18, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8420)
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR 7/1/2005 S7840-7841)
- **Jun 30, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR 7/1/2005 S7842-7846)