

## S 1638

Hurricane Katrina Emergency Health Workforce Act of 2005

**Congress:** 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Sep 8, 2005

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sep 8, 2005)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1638>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Obama, Barack [D-IL]

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

### Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Sep 12, 2005
Sen. Corzine, Jon S. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Sep 12, 2005
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Sep 12, 2005
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 13, 2005
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Sep 14, 2005
Sen. Dayton, Mark [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 20, 2005

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 8, 2005

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Hurricane Katrina Emergency Health Workforce Act of 2005 - Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish the National Emergency Health Professionals Volunteer Corps to provide for an adequate supply of health professionals in the event of an emergency.

Requires the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to establish a national database of health professionals to increase health preparedness for federal emergencies.

Includes service by physicians and other health professionals who are providing treatment or services related to a declared major disaster as "service in the uniformed services" for purposes of employment and reemployment benefits.

Amends the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to require hospitals that receive federal payments for graduate medical education costs to provide disaster preparedness training as part of any approved graduate medical residency training program provided by the hospital.

Deems volunteer health professionals providing a qualifying health service related to a declared major disaster to be employees of the Public Health Service for purposes of liability protection.

Authorizes the Secretary to suspend state health professional licensing and certification requirements for health professionals that are operating in such state during a declared major disaster.

Authorizes the Secretary and the Secretary of Homeland Security to waive any federal requirements applicable to health professions that would limit the ability of health professionals to provide volunteer medical services related to a declared major disaster.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Sep 8, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 8, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9844-9845)
- **Sep 8, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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