

S 23

Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: May 3, 2006

Current Status: Cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 49 - 44. Record Vote Number:

Latest Action: Cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 49 - 44. Record Vote Number: 116. (consideration: CR S4146-4147; text: CR S4146) (May 8, 2006)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/23>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	R · CO		May 3, 2006
Sen. Burns, Conrad R. [R-MT]	R · MT		May 3, 2006
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		May 3, 2006
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		May 3, 2006
Sen. DeMint, Jim [R-SC]	R · SC		May 3, 2006
Sen. Dole, Elizabeth [R-NC]	R · NC		May 3, 2006
Sen. Ensign, John [R-NV]	R · NV		May 3, 2006
Sen. Frist, William H. [R-TN]	R · TN		May 3, 2006
Sen. Gregg, Judd [R-NH]	R · NH		May 3, 2006
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		May 3, 2006
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		May 3, 2006
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		May 3, 2006
Sen. Talent, Jim [R-MO]	R · MO		May 3, 2006
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		May 3, 2006
Sen. Voinovich, George V. [R-OH]	R · OH		May 3, 2006
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		May 4, 2006
Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]	R · MS		May 8, 2006
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		May 8, 2006
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		May 8, 2006

Committee Activity

No committee referrals or activity are recorded for this bill.

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 S 22	Related bill	May 8, 2006: Cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 48 - 42. Record Vote Number: 115. (consideration: CR S4146; text: CR S4146)

Summary (as of May 3, 2006)

Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act - Sets forth provisions regulating lawsuits for health care liability claims related to the provision of obstetrical or gynecological services.

Sets a statute of limitations of three years after the date of manifestation of injury or one year after the claimant discovers the injury, with certain exceptions.

Requires a court to impose sanctions for the filing of frivolous lawsuits.

Limits noneconomic damages to \$250,000 from the provider or health care institution, but no more than \$500,000 from multiple health care institutions. Makes each party liable only for the amount of damages directly proportional to such party's percentage of responsibility.

Allows the court to restrict the payment of attorney contingency fees. Limits the fees to a decreasing percentage based on the increasing value of the amount awarded.

Prescribes qualifications for expert witnesses.

Requires the court to reduce damages received by the amount of collateral source benefits to which a claimant is entitled, unless the payor of such benefits has the right to reimbursement or subrogation under federal or state law.

Authorizes the award of punitive damages only where: (1) it is proven by clear and convincing evidence that a person acted with malicious intent to injure the claimant or deliberately failed to avoid unnecessary injury the claimant was substantially certain to suffer; and (2) compensatory damages are awarded. Limits punitive damages to the greater of two times the amount of economic damages or \$250,000.

Prohibits a health care provider from being named as a party in a product liability or class action lawsuit for prescribing or dispensing a Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved prescription drug, biological product, or medical device for an approved indication.

Provides for periodic payments of future damage awards.

Actions Timeline

- **May 8, 2006:** Cloture on the motion to proceed not invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 49 - 44. Record Vote Number: 116. (consideration: CR S4146-4147; text: CR S4146)
- **May 5, 2006:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (consideration: CR S4095)
- **May 5, 2006:** Cloture motion on the motion to proceed presented in Senate. (consideration: CR S4095; text: CR S4095)
- **May 5, 2006:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure withdrawn in Senate. (consideration: CR S4095)
- **May 4, 2006:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 423.
- **May 3, 2006:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 3, 2006:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.