

S 345

Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act of 2005

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 10, 2005

Current Status: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-10526)

Latest Action: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-10526) (Sep 27, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/345

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • State: IL • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Salazar, Ken [D-CO]	D · CO		Mar 8, 2005
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Feb 13, 2006
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 28, 2006
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jun 14, 2006
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 27, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 10, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 S 873	Identical bill	Sep 27, 2005: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-1052 6)
109 HR 752	Related bill	Feb 25, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act of 2005 - Amends part D (Voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit Program) of title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to: (1) offer one or more Medicare operated prescription drug plans nationally that offer qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices, while allowing the plan to offer supplemental prescription drug coverage in the same manner as other qualified prescription drug coverage offered by other prescription drug plans; and (2) enter into negotiations with pharmaceutical manufacturers to reduce the purchase cost of covered Medicare part D drugs for eligible part D individuals, and encourage the use of more affordable therapeutic equivalents.

Requires the monthly beneficiary premium charged under such a plan to be uniform nationally. Makes the premium for months in 2006 \$35. Bases the premium for months in succeeding years on the average monthly per capita actuarial cost of offering the Medicare operated prescription drug plan for the year involved, including administrative expenses. Allows for adjustment of such premium amount in case of supplemental prescription drug coverage.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Sep 27, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-10526)
- **Feb 10, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 10, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1272-1273)
- **Feb 10, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1273)