

S 813

A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate for lower prices for medicare prescription drugs.

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Apr 15, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3747)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3747) (Apr 15, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/813>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 15, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Apr 15, 2005)

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act with respect to prescription drug plans to repeal the prohibition against: (1) interference by the Secretary of Health and Human Services with negotiations between drug manufacturers and pharmacies and prescription drug plan sponsors; and (2) the Secretary's requiring a particular formulary or instituting a price structure for the reimbursement of covered Medicare part D (Voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit Program) drugs. Grants the Secretary authority similar to that of other Federal entities that purchase prescription drugs in bulk to negotiate contracts with manufacturers of covered part D drugs.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 15, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 15, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3747)
- **Apr 15, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3747)

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