

## S 873

### Medicare Prescription Drug Savings and Choice Act of 2005

**Congress:** 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Apr 21, 2005

**Current Status:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-1052 6)

**Latest Action:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-1052 6) (Sep 27, 2005)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/873>

### Sponsor

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

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

*No committee referrals or activity are recorded for this bill.*

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
109 S 345	Identical bill	<b>Sep 27, 2005:</b> Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-10526)
109 HR 752	Related bill	<b>Feb 25, 2005:</b> 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 offer one or more Medicare operated prescription drug plans nationally that provide qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices. Allows the plan to offer supplemental prescription drug coverage in the same manner as other qualified prescription drug coverage by other prescription drug plans.

Requires the Secretary to negotiate 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, with a formula for determining premium adjustments in subsequent years.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Sep 27, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S10525-1052 6)
- **Apr 22, 2005:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 90.
- **Apr 21, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 21, 2005:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4114)