

S 244

Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Law

Introduced: Jan 10, 2007

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Jan 10, 2007)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/244

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Gregg, Judd [R-NH]

Party: Republican • State: NH • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Allard, Wayne [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. DeMint, Jim [R-SC]	R · SC		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Dole, Elizabeth [R-NC]	R · NC		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Ensign, John [R-NV]	R · NV		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	R · AL		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Voinovich, George V. [R-OH]	R · OH		Jan 10, 2007
Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]	R · MS		Jan 11, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 10, 2007

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Law

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

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

- **Jan 10, 2007:** Introduced in Senate
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