

## S 1235

Children's Access to Reconstructive Evaluation & Surgery (CARES) Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jun 11, 2009

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jun 11, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/1235>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 16, 2009
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jun 24, 2009
Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]	D · ND		Apr 27, 2010
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Aug 2, 2010
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Sep 13, 2010

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 11, 2009

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 1339	Identical bill	<b>Apr 29, 2009:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

## Summary (as of Jun 11, 2009)

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Children's Access to Reconstructive Evaluation & Surgery (CARES) Act of 2009 - Amends the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and the Internal Revenue Code to require a group health plan that covers surgical benefits to also cover outpatient and inpatient diagnosis and treatment of a congenital or developmental deformity, disease, or injury of a minor child (defined as child under the age of 22).

Requires that such coverage: (1) be subject to pre-authorization or pre-certification requirements of the plan or issuer; and (2) include any surgical treatment deemed by the treating physician to be medically necessary to approximate a normal appearance. Defines "treatment" to include reconstructive surgical procedures that are performed on abnormal structures of the body caused by congenital defects, abnormalities, trauma, infection, tumors, or disease, including: (1) procedures that do not materially affect the function of the body part being treated; and (2) procedures for secondary conditions and follow-up treatment. Excludes cosmetic surgery performed to reshape normal structures of the body to improve appearance or self-esteem.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jun 11, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 11, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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