

## HR 1883

Patient Advocate Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Apr 2, 2009

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Apr 21, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/1883>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** VA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Jackson-Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Apr 2, 2009
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Apr 2, 2009

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 21, 2009

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Patient Advocate Act of 2009 - Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a demonstration program under which the Secretary may make grants for the development and operation of programs to provide services for patients to resolve health insurance, job retention, and debt crisis matters related to the patients' diagnosis and illness. Includes as services to be provided by grant recipients: (1) acting as contacts for individuals who are seeking prevention or early detection services or treatment for an adverse health condition; (2) facilitating the involvement of community organizations in assisting individuals to receive better access to high-quality health care services; (3) notifying individuals of clinical trials and facilitating enrollment of individuals in trials; (4) anticipating, identifying, and helping individuals to overcome barriers within the health care system to ensure prompt diagnosis and treatment; (5) coordinating with the relevant health insurance ombudsman programs to provide information to individuals about health coverage; and (6) conducting ongoing outreach to health disparity populations in addition to assisting other individuals to seek preventive care.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) require grantees to prohibit any patient health advocate providing services under the grant from accepting any referral fee, kickback, or other thing of value in return for referring an individual to a particular health care provider; and (2) prohibit the use of any grant funds to pay any fees or costs resulting from any proceeding to resolve a legal dispute.

Sets forth provisions prohibiting discrimination in any program or activities funded or otherwise financially assisted under this Act.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 21, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Apr 2, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 2, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.