

HR 2688

Empowered at Home Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jun 3, 2009

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jun 4, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/2688>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 3, 2009
Rep. Capps, Lois [D-CA-23]	D · CA		Jun 12, 2009
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		Jun 18, 2009
Rep. Payne, Donald M. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Jul 9, 2009
Rep. Capuano, Michael E. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Sep 25, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 4, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Empowered at Home Act of 2009 - Amends title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to revise the income eligibility level for home and community-based (HCBS) services for elderly and disabled individuals.

Revises the income eligibility limit for the state option to provide HCBS services under a waiver. Replaces the income limit of 150% of the poverty line with a limit of 300% of the supplemental security income (SSI) benefit rate.

Authorizes a state to offer HCBS services under a waiver to eligible individuals that differ in type, amount, duration, or scope from the HCBS waiver services offered to other such individuals so long as they are within the scope of services for which the Secretary has authority to approve a waiver and do not include room or board.

Increases the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for the provision of HCBS services under Medicaid through the state plan amendment option.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to report annually to Congress on state use of Medicaid state plan amendment option for HCBS services for elderly and disabled individuals.

Directs the Secretary to award assistance grants to states electing to provide HCBS waiver services under Medicaid through the state plan amendment option.

Reauthorizes Medicaid investment grants (currently called transformation grants) at increased funding and specifies additional permissible uses to facilitate the provision of HCBS and other long-term care (LTC) services.

Directs the Secretary to award grants on a competitive basis to eligible states to conduct an evidence- and community-based health promotion program.

Amends SSA title XIX, with respect to treatment of the income and resources of HCBS waiver services recipients who would otherwise be institutionalized, to repeal the state option for (thus requiring) application to such individuals of spousal impoverishment protection requirements.

Requires states to exclude up to six months of the average cost of nursing facility services from an individual's assets or resources for purposes of eligibility for HCBS waiver services.

Directs the Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, to revise certain data reporting forms and systems to ensure uniform and consistent state reporting under this Act.

Directs the Comptroller General to study and report to Congress on: (1) the provision of home health services under different state Medicaid plans; and (2) the extent to which states offer consumer self-direction of such services, or allow for other consumer-oriented policies with respect to them.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 4, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jun 3, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 3, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.