

## HR 3200

America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jul 14, 2009

**Current Status:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 168.

**Latest Action:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 168. (Oct 14, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/3200>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Dingell, John D. [D-MI-15]

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

### Cosponsors (9 total)

| Cosponsor                          | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]   | D · NJ        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]       | D · CA        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]  | D · NJ        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-15]  | D · NY        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13] | D · CA        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]    | D · CA        |      | Jul 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-5]      | D · MI        |      | Jul 16, 2009 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-14] | D · NY        |      | Jul 17, 2009 |
| Rep. Baca, Joe [D-CA-43]           | D · CA        |      | Oct 13, 2009 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                                 | Chamber | Activity        | Date         |
|---|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Budget Committee                          | House   | Discharged From | Oct 14, 2009 |
| Education and Workforce Committee         | House   | Reported By     | Oct 14, 2009 |
| Energy and Commerce Committee             | House   | Reported By     | Oct 14, 2009 |
| Oversight and Government Reform Committee | House   | Discharged From | Oct 14, 2009 |
| Ways and Means Committee                  | House   | Reported By     | Oct 14, 2009 |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

## Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action   |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 111 HR 5636 | Related bill | Jun 29, 2010: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.                       |
| 111 S 1796  | Related bill | Oct 19, 2009: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 184. |

America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009 - Sets forth provisions governing health insurance plans and issuers, including: (1) exempting grandfathered health insurance coverage from requirements of this Act; (2) prohibiting preexisting condition exclusions; (3) providing for guaranteed coverage to all individuals and employers and automatic renewal of coverage; (4) prohibiting premium variances, except for reasons of age, area, or family enrollment; and (5) prohibiting rescission of health insurance coverage without clear and convincing evidence of fraud.

Requires qualified health benefits plans to provide essential benefits. Prohibits an essential benefits package from imposing any annual or lifetime coverage limits. Lists required covered services, including hospitalization, prescription drugs, mental health services, preventive services, maternity care, and children's dental, vision, and hearing services and equipment. Limits annual out-of-pocket expenses to \$5,000 for an individual and \$10,000 for a family.

Establishes the Health Choices Administration as an independent agency to be headed by a Health Choices Commissioner. Establishes the Health Insurance Exchange within the Health Choices Administration in order to provide individuals and employers access to health insurance coverage choices, including a public health insurance option. Requires the Commissioner to: (1) contract with entities to offer health benefit plans through the Exchange to eligible individuals; and (2) establish a risk-pooling mechanism for Exchange-participating health plans.

Provides for an affordability premium credit and an affordability cost-sharing credit for low-income individuals and families participating in the Exchange.

Requires employers to offer health benefits coverage to employees and make specified contributions towards such coverage or make contributions to the Exchange for employees obtaining coverage through the Exchange. Exempts businesses with payrolls below \$250,000 from such requirement.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to impose a tax on: (1) an individual without coverage under a health benefits plan; and (2) an employer that fails to satisfy health coverage participation requirements for an employee. Imposes a surtax on individual modified adjusted gross income exceeding \$350,000.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to revise provisions relating to payment, coverage, and access, including to: (1) reduce payments to hospitals to account for excess readmissions; (2) limit cost-sharing for Medicare Advantage beneficiaries; (3) reduce the coverage gap under Medicare Part D (Voluntary Prescription Drug Benefit Program); (4) provide for increased payment for primary health care services; and (5) prohibit cost-sharing for covered preventive services.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to provide for the development of quality measures for the delivery of health care services in the United States.

Establishes a Center for Comparative Effectiveness Research within the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, financed by a tax on accident and health insurance policies, to conduct and support health care services effectiveness research.

Sets forth provisions to reduce health care fraud.

Amends title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to: (1) expand Medicaid eligibility for low-income individuals and families; (2) require coverage of additional preventive services; and (3) increase payments for primary care services.

Sets forth provisions relating to the health workforce, including: (1) addressing health care workforce needs through loan repayment and training; (2) establishing the Public Health Workforce Corps; (3) addressing health care workforce diversity; and (4) establishing the Advisory Committee on Health Workforce Evaluation and Assessment.

Sets forth provisions to: (1) provide for prevention and wellness activities; (2) establish the Center for Quality Improvement; (3) establish the position of the Assistant Secretary for Health Information; (4) revise the 340B drug discount program (a program limiting the cost of covered outpatient drugs to certain federal grantees); (5) establish a school-based health care program; and (6) establish a national medical device registry.

## **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Oct 14, 2009:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 111-299, Part I.
- **Oct 14, 2009:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 111-299, Part II.
- **Oct 14, 2009:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Labor. H. Rept. 111-299, Part III.
- **Oct 14, 2009:** Committee on Oversight and Government discharged.
- **Oct 14, 2009:** Committee on The Budget discharged.
- **Oct 14, 2009:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 168.
- **Jul 31, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 31, 2009:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 31 - 28.
- **Jul 21, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 20, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 17, 2009:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 26 - 22.
- **Jul 17, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 17, 2009:** Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 23 - 18.
- **Jul 16, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 15, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to House Energy and Commerce
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to House Ways and Means
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to House Education and Labor
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to House Oversight and Government Reform
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Referred to House Budget