

S 468

Access to Emergency Medical Services Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 25, 2009

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 25, 2009)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/468

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]

Party: Democratic • State: MI • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 25, 2009
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Feb 25, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Feb 25, 2009
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Mar 23, 2009
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 26, 2009
Sen. Bayh, Evan [D-IN]	D · IN		Mar 31, 2009
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 21, 2009
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Apr 21, 2009
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Apr 23, 2009
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Apr 27, 2009
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		May 6, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 25, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 1188	Identical bill	Feb 26, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Access to Emergency Medical Services Act of 2009 - Establishes the United States Bipartisan Commission on Access to Emergency Medical Services to: (1) identify and examine factors in the health care delivery, financing, and legal systems that affect the effective delivery of screening and stabilization services furnished in hospitals that have emergency departments pursuant to the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA); and (2) make specific recommendations to Congress with respect to federal programs, policies, and financing needed to assure the availability of such screening and stabilization services and the coordination of state, local, and federal programs for responding to disasters and emergencies.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to provide for additional payments for certain physicians' emergency services furnished pursuant to EMTALA.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, to convene a working group that includes experts in emergency care, inpatient critical care, hospital operations management, nursing, and other relevant disciplines to develop boarding and diversion standards for hospitals and guidelines, measures, and incentives for implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of such standards.

Requires the CMS working group to: (1) identify barriers contributing to delays in timely processing of patients requiring admission as inpatients who initially sought care through the hospital's emergency department; (2) identify best practices to improve patient flow within hospitals; and (3) report to Congress and the Secretary a detailed description of the standards, guidelines, measures, and incentives developed, as well as identified barriers and best practices.

Directs the Secretary to establish a mechanism to make public information regarding any hospital that fails to report information requested by the CMS working group.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 25, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
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