

S 488

Access to Cancer Clinical Trials Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 26, 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. (Feb 26, 2009)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/488

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]

Party: Democratic • State: OH • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Feb 27, 2009
Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]	R · PA		Mar 11, 2009
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 24, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 26, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 716	Related bill	Jan 28, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Access to Cancer Clinical Trials Act of 2009 - Amends the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and the Internal Revenue Code to prohibit a group health plan from: (1) denying an eligible participant or beneficiary with cancer participation in clinical trials related to the prevention or treatment of cancer that are federally funded or conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); (2) denying (or limiting or imposing additional conditions on) the coverage of routine patient costs for items and services furnished in connection with such participation; or (3) discriminating against an individual on the basis of such participation. Includes as routine patient costs all items and services provided in the clinical trial that are otherwise generally available to a qualified individual, with certain exceptions.

Applies such prohibitions to coverage offered in the individual market and coverage offered through the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

Makes this Act effective January 1, 2009.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to study the impact on group health plans of requiring them to cover routine patient care costs for individuals with serious and life threatening diseases other than cancer.

---

### **Actions Timeline**

- **Feb 26, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S2564-2565)
- **Feb 26, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.