

## S 717

### 21st Century Cancer ALERT (Access to Life-Saving Early detection, Research and Treatment) Act

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Mar 26, 2009

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3906-3914) (Mar 26, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/717>

#### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** Senate

#### Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 26, 2009
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 26, 2009
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 30, 2009
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Mar 31, 2009
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 20, 2009
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 20, 2009
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 22, 2009
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 29, 2009
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Apr 29, 2009
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 29, 2009
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 30, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 5, 2009
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		May 5, 2009
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		May 11, 2009
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		May 13, 2009
Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]	D · ND		May 13, 2009
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		May 13, 2009
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		May 20, 2009
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR		May 20, 2009
Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 6, 2009
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 29, 2009

## Committee Activity

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

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

21st Century Cancer ALERT (Access to Life-Saving Early detection, Research and Treatment) Act - Amends the Public Health Service Act to revise provisions related to the National Cancer Program, including to require the establishment of an entity within the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to augment ongoing efforts to advance new technologies in cancer research, support the national collection of tissues for cancer research purposes, and ensure the quality of tissue collection.

Sets forth provisions governing clinical trials, including ethical and privacy standards.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants for research on cancers with a low five-year survival rate and rare cancers.

Expands coverage of colorectal screenings, including through providing grants and allowing states to provide coverage for such screenings under Medicaid.

Provides for biomarkers research.

Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to prohibit a group health plan from discriminating against participants and beneficiaries participating in cancer clinical trials.

Sets forth provisions regarding retirement pay for nurses retiring from the Armed Forces.

Requires the Secretary to study the current and future cancer care workforce needs.

Prohibits the Secretary from awarding patient navigator grants unless entities provide assurances that patient navigators meet minimum core proficiencies.

Provides for coverage under Medicare for payment of routine costs of care furnished to individuals participating in cancer clinical trials.

Requires the Secretary to conduct a demonstration project under which payment for comprehensive cancer care planning services will be made under Medicare.

Provides for coverage of tobacco cessation products.

Provides for research on cancer survivorship related to childhood cancer and health disparities in outcomes.

Requires the Secretary to convene a Workforce Development Collaborative on Psychosocial Care During Chronic Medical Illness.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 26, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 26, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3905-3906)
- **Mar 26, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3906-3914)