

S 2474

Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2012

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Apr 26, 2012

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. (Apr 26, 2012)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/2474>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Apr 26, 2012
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Nov 27, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 26, 2012

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 6482	Related bill	Sep 21, 2012: Referred to the House Committee on the Budget.
112 HR 2954	Related bill	Nov 18, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
112 HR 2704	Related bill	Aug 25, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
112 S 1504	Related bill	Aug 2, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5264-5265)
112 HR 2159	Related bill	Jun 24, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 HR 2194	Related bill	Jun 22, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 S 1221	Related bill	Jun 16, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
112 S 1190	Related bill	Jun 14, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
112 HR 2029	Related bill	Jun 3, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 S 501	Related bill	Mar 8, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2012 - Amends the Public Health Service Act and the Social Security Act to expand the collection and analysis of data in programs of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Sets forth provisions to improve cultural competence in federal health care programs and services, including by establishing the Robert T. Matsui Center for Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Health Care.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary) to engage in activities to improve health workforce diversity, including by: (1) establishing a working group, a technical clearinghouse, and an advisory committee on workforce diversity; (2) awarding grants to academic institutions; (3) establishing a health and health care disparities education program; and (4) providing for scholarships, student loan repayment and loan forgiveness, and research fellowships.

Health Empowerment Zone Act of 2012 - Provides for the establishment of health empowerment zones in communities that experience disproportionate disparities in health status and health care.

Requires the Secretary to engage in activities to improve the quality of and access to health care, including by expanding access to health care and health care insurance for immigrants, designating centers of excellence at public hospitals and other health systems serving minority patients, increasing Medicaid payments to territories and to Native Hawaiian health centers, and providing for border health grants.

Sets forth programs to reduce health disparities affecting minorities and rural residents. Establishes an Office of Minority Health in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Sets forth provisions to improve health for women and children, including by expanding access to federal programs for immigrant women and children, creating public awareness campaigns, engaging in activities to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes, and establishing programs to reduce teenage pregnancies, including contraception education and information programs and programs to support healthy adolescent development.

Directs the Secretary to develop a multisite gestational diabetes research project within the diabetes program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Provides for community mental health and addiction services to be offered through federally-qualified behavioral health centers.

Lung Cancer Mortality Reduction Act of 2012 - Requires the Secretary to implement the Lung Cancer Mortality Reduction Program to achieve a reduction of at least 25% in the mortality rate of lung cancer by 2017.

Prostate Research, Outreach, Screening, Testing, Access, and Treatment Effectiveness Act of 2012 or the PROSTATE Act - Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to take action to address prostate cancer, including by establishing the Interagency Prostate Cancer Coordination and Education Task Force.

Viral Hepatitis and Liver Cancer Control and Prevention Act of 2012 - Requires the Secretary to implement programs to address hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

Bone Marrow Failure Disease Research and Treatment Act of 2012 - Requires the Director of CDC to establish the National Acquired Bone Marrow Failure Disease Registry.

Requires the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to develop guidelines to screen minority patient populations which have a higher than average risk for many chronic diseases and cancers.

Establishes a program for participation by Medicaid beneficiaries in approved clinical trials.

Requires the Secretary to carry out activities to expand the Minority HIV/AIDS Initiative.

National Black Clergy for the Elimination of HIV/AIDS Act of 2012 - Provides for a program of grants to public health agencies and faith-based organizations to address HIV/AIDS in the African-American community.

Justice for the Unprotected Against Sexually Transmitted Infections among the Confined and Exposed Act or the JUSTICE Act - Permits community organizations to distribute sexual barrier protection devices (e.g., condoms) and to engage in sexually transmitted infection counseling and prevention education in federal correctional facilities.

Stop AIDS in Prison Act of 2012 - Requires the Bureau of Prisons to develop a comprehensive policy to provide HIV testing, treatment, and prevention for inmates.

Minority Diabetes Initiative Act - Requires the Secretary to award grants to provide treatment for diabetes in minority communities and to conduct and support research and other activities with respect to diabetes in minority populations.

Directs the Secretary to conduct research and other activities for the prevention of lung diseases, including asthma, pneumonia, and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases.

Sets forth provisions regarding the use of health information technology to reduce health disparities, particularly in racial and ethnic minority communities.

Prohibits discrimination in federal health care programs or research activities.

Requires the Secretary to establish the Office of Health Disparities in the Office for Civil Rights and to establish civil rights compliance offices in each HHS agency that administers health programs.

Directs the President to enforce Executive Order 12898 (requiring federal actions to address environmental justice in minority and low-income populations) as federal law.

Amends the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) a Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO) to study the type and scope of health care services provided to racial and ethnic minorities affected by the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling unit on April 20, 2010.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 26, 2012:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 26, 2012:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S2830-2831)
- **Apr 26, 2012:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.