

S 311

Medical Foods Equity Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 8, 2011

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 8, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/311>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Feb 8, 2011
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Feb 17, 2011
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 28, 2011
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 31, 2011
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 26, 2011
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 9, 2011

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 8, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 1311	Identical bill	May 18, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Medical Foods Equity Act of 2011 - Amends titles XVIII (Medicare), XIX (Medicaid), and XXI (Children's Health Insurance Program) (CHIP, formerly known as SCHIP) of the Social Security Act to include coverage of: (1) medically necessary food and food modified to be low protein that is formulated to be consumed or administered under the supervision of a physician and the medical equipment and supplies necessary to administer such food; and (2) pharmacological doses of vitamins and amino acids used for the treatment of inborn errors of metabolism. Applies such coverage requirements to the TRICARE program (military health care).

Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code to require health plans to provide coverage of such food, vitamins, and amino acids.

Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to determine the minimum yearly coverage for all health insurance plans based upon the expanded coverage provided by this Act. Authorizes the Secretary to establish age-specific minimum levels of coverage. Declares that the minimum yearly coverage determined by the Secretary shall not preempt any state standards that require a higher minimum yearly coverage level for the same services and benefits.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 8, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 8, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S633-634)
- **Feb 8, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.