

## S 539

### Behavioral Health Information Technology Act of 2011

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Mar 10, 2011

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Mar 10, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/539>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]

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

## Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 28, 2011
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		May 3, 2011
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		May 3, 2011
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		May 3, 2011
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		May 3, 2011
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 25, 2011
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 26, 2011
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Jun 29, 2011
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 6, 2011
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 13, 2011
Sen. Begich, Mark [D-AK]	D · AK		Jul 13, 2011
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jul 21, 2011
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jul 26, 2011
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Sep 6, 2011
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jan 24, 2012
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Feb 14, 2012
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 28, 2012

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 10, 2011

## Subjects & Policy Tags

---

### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 6043	Related bill	Jul 9, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

### Summary (as of Mar 10, 2011)

Behavioral Health Information Technology Act of 2011 - Amends the Public Health Service Act to expand the definition of "health care provider" for purposes of health information technology provisions to include a behavioral or mental health professional, a substance abuse professional, a psychiatric hospital, a community mental health center, a residential or outpatient mental health treatment facility, and a substance abuse treatment facility.

Adds community mental health centers, psychiatric hospitals, behavioral and mental health professionals, substance abuse professionals, residential or outpatient mental health treatment facilities, and substance abuse treatment facilities to the list of entities with priority for receiving direct assistance from regional extension centers to effectively adopt, implement, and utilize health information technology.

Amends titles XVIII (Medicare) and XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to include qualified clinical psychologists, clinical social workers, psychiatric hospitals, community mental health centers, residential or outpatient mental health treatment facilities, and substance abuse treatment facilities within the health professionals, hospitals, and Medicaid providers eligible for incentive payments for the meaningful use of certified EHR technology. Applies Medicare hospital market basket adjustments for such incentives applicable to inpatient hospitals to psychiatric hospitals.

### Actions Timeline

- **Mar 10, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 10, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.