

S 1879

Cancer Treatment Parity Act of 2013

**Congress:** 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Dec 19, 2013

**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. (Dec 19, 2013)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1879>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Dec 19, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 20, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1801	Related bill	<b>Jul 8, 2013:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

Cancer Treatment Parity Act of 2013 - Amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code to require a group or individual health plan providing benefits with respect to anticancer medications administered by a health care provider to provide no less favorable coverage for prescribed, patient-administered anticancer medications used to kill, slow, or prevent the growth of cancerous cells and that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Applies such requirement to medication that is prescribed based on a finding by the treating physician that the medication is: (1) medically necessary for the purpose of killing, slowing, or preventing the growth of cancerous cells in accordance with nationally accepted standards of medical practice; and (2) clinically appropriate in terms of type, frequency, extent site, and duration.

Permits such coverage to be subject to the same cost-sharing applicable to anticancer medications administered by a health care provider under the plan.

Prohibits a health plan from imposing an increase in out-of-pocket costs, reclassifying benefits with respect to anticancer medications, or applying more restrictive limitations on prescribed orally- or intravenously-administered or injected anticancer medications.

Requires a plan to provide notice to each participant and beneficiary regarding the coverage required under this Act.

Requires the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to assess how closing the Medicare part D donut hole affects Medicare coverage for orally-administered anticancer medications, with a particular focus on cost and accessibility.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Dec 19, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 19, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.