

HR 1055

Comprehensive Dental Reform Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 25, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (Nov 23, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1055>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MD • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 25, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2015
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Feb 25, 2015
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Mar 4, 2015
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Oct 6, 2015
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jul 5, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 23, 2015
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 25, 2015
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 16, 2015
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 23, 2015
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 6, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 27, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 570	Identical bill	Feb 25, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Comprehensive Dental Reform Act of 2015

Amends titles XVIII (Medicare) and XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to cover oral health services.

Increases the federal medical assistance percentage for oral health services, thereby increasing payments to states under Medicaid.

Directs the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to maintain a database of dental benefits available to adult Medicaid enrollees in each state.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to establish, revise, and extend funding for grant programs for:

- educating nondental professionals about oral health care;
- providing dental services in hospital emergency rooms or in community settings;
- providing scholarships and education loans for oral health professional students;
- providing oral health services to low-income and underserved individuals;
- building, operating, or expanding dental clinics in schools; and
- providing mobile, comprehensive dental services at locations that serve individuals who qualify for benefits under specified programs.

Authorizes community based dental residencies.

Authorizes specified agencies to conduct research on oral health issues through FY2019.

Amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to make oral health services an essential health benefit.

Removes restrictions on the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide dental care to veterans (thereby requiring dental care on the same basis as other VA-provided medical care and services).

Authorizes the VA, Department of Defense, Bureau of Prisons, and Indian Health Service to carry out demonstration programs to train and employ alternative dental health care providers in order to increase access to dental services.

Directs the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the expansion of dental service coverage pursuant to this Act.

Directs the Government Accountability Office to evaluate the implementation and utilization of expanded dental service coverage under this Act and the demonstration programs authorized by this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 23, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Mar 27, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 23, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- **Mar 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
- **Mar 6, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, Veterans' Affairs, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.