

S 1475

Saving Lives, Saving Costs Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jun 2, 2015

Current Status: Committee on the Budget. Hearings held in Villanova, Pennsylvania.

Latest Action: Committee on the Budget. Hearings held in Villanova, Pennsylvania. (Jun 8, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1475>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

Party: Republican • State: WY • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Jun 2, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Budget Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Jun 8, 2015
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 2, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 2603	Identical bill	Jun 16, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

## **Saving Lives, Saving Costs Act**

Establishes a framework for health care liability lawsuits to undergo review by independent medical review panels if health care professionals (practicing physicians or their agents or employees) allege adherence to applicable clinical practice guidelines.

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to publish clinical practice guidelines provided and maintained by national or state medical societies or medical specialty societies designated by HHS. Sets forth standards for the development of guidelines, including standards related to transparency, the composition of the panel, and the review of existing evidence. Prohibits holding a professional organization or a participant in guideline development liable for injury allegedly caused by adherence to a guideline to which they contributed.

Declares that this Act does not preempt: (1) any state or federal law that imposes greater procedural or substantive protections for health care providers and health care organizations from liability, loss, or damages than those provided under this Act; (2) any state or federal law that creates a cause of action; or (3) any defenses otherwise available.

Gives jurisdiction of health care liability actions against health care professionals, providers, or organizations to district courts. Allows a defendant to remove any health care liability action brought in a state court to a district court.

Requires an independent medical review in health care liability actions that have been removed to a district court if the eligible professionals allege that they adhered to applicable clinical practice guidelines. Sets forth procedures for the use of the panel's findings at trial.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jun 8, 2015:** Committee on the Budget. Hearings held in Villanova, Pennsylvania.
- **Jun 2, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 2, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.