

HR 1650

Medicare Patient Empowerment Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 26, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Apr 7, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1650>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Price, Tom [R-GA-6]

Party: Republican • **State:** GA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (31 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8]	R · IN		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]	R · TX		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Sessions, Pete [R-TX-32]	R · TX		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Tiberi, Patrick J. [R-OH-12]	R · OH		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Apr 13, 2015
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Apr 13, 2015
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Apr 15, 2015
Rep. Mulvaney, Mick [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Apr 15, 2015
Rep. Hensarling, Jeb [R-TX-5]	R · TX		Apr 21, 2015
Rep. Hanna, Richard L. [R-NY-22]	R · NY		Apr 22, 2015
Rep. Babin, Brian [R-TX-36]	R · TX		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17]	R · TX		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Harper, Gregg [R-MS-3]	R · MS		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Apr 28, 2015
Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]	R · GA		May 12, 2015
Rep. Bishop, Mike [R-MI-8]	R · MI		May 12, 2015
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		May 12, 2015
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		May 12, 2015
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		May 12, 2015
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		May 15, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		May 22, 2015
Rep. Lance, Leonard [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		May 26, 2015
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		May 29, 2015
Rep. Woodall, Rob [R-GA-7]	R · GA		Jun 11, 2015
Rep. Paulsen, Erik [R-MN-3]	R · MN		Oct 9, 2015
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Mar 14, 2016
Rep. Trott, David A. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		Sep 28, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 27, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 7, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2519	Related bill	Feb 9, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S740-741)
114 HR 2300	Related bill	Nov 16, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.
114 S 1849	Identical bill	Jul 23, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Mar 26, 2015)

Medicare Patient Empowerment Act of 2015

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to allow any Medicare beneficiary to enter into a contract with an eligible professional (regardless of whether a participating or non-participating physician or practitioner) for any item or service covered by Medicare. Allows such beneficiaries to submit a claim for Medicare payment in the amount that would otherwise apply, except that where the professional is considered to be non-participating, payment shall be paid as if the professional were participating.

Defines eligible professional as a physician, a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a certified nurse-midwife, a clinical social worker, a clinical psychologist, a clinical psychologist, a physical or occupational therapist or a qualified speech-language pathologist, or a qualified audiologist.

Requires a Medicare beneficiary to agree in writing in such a contract to: (1) pay the eligible professional for a Medicare-covered item or service; and (2) submit (in lieu of the eligible professional) a claim for Medicare payment. Allows a beneficiary, however, to negotiate, as a term of the contract, for the eligible professional to file such claims on the beneficiary's behalf.

Preempts state laws from limiting the amount of charges for physician and practitioner services for which Medicare payment is made.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 7, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 27, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Mar 26, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 26, 2015:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.