

S 1919

Health Care Conscience Rights Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 4, 2015

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. (Aug 4, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1919>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]

Party: Republican • **State:** OK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (25 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Coats, Daniel [R-IN]	R · IN		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Corker, Bob [R-TN]	R · TN		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]	R · TX		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]	R · GA		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Sasse, Ben [R-NE]	R · NE		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Aug 6, 2015
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		Sep 8, 2015
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Sep 16, 2015
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Sep 16, 2015
Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]	R · UT		Sep 24, 2015
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Sep 24, 2015
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Nov 9, 2015
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Nov 30, 2015
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Dec 3, 2015
Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]	R · UT		Dec 9, 2015
Sen. Vitter, David [R-LA]	R · LA		Feb 22, 2016
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jun 13, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 4, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5926	Related bill	Jul 22, 2016: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 541.
114 HR 3020	Related bill	Jul 10, 2015: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 145.
114 HR 940	Related bill	Feb 27, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Health Care Conscience Rights Act

Amends title I of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to declare that nothing in that title requires an individual to purchase individual health insurance coverage that includes coverage of an abortion or other item or service to which the individual has a moral or religious objection, or prevent an issuer from offering coverage excluding such item or service to that individual.

Denies that title I requires a health plan sponsor or a health insurance issuer to cover an item or service to which the sponsor or issuer has a moral or religious objection.

Denies also that title I authorizes imposition of a tax, penalty, fee, fine, or other sanction, or imposition of coverage of such an item or service, on health insurance coverage that excludes such an item or service.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to codify the prohibition against any action by the federal government and any state or local government receiving federal financial assistance to subject a health professional, or health care facility, organization, or plan to discrimination on the basis that the entity refuses to participate in abortion-related activities.

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to designate the Director of the Office for Civil Rights of HHS to receive and investigate complaints alleging a violation of this abortion discrimination prohibition.

Creates a cause of action for the Attorney General or any person or entity adversely affected to obtain equitable or legal relief for any violation of this abortion discrimination prohibition. Allows commencement of an action and the granting of relief without a prerequisite pursuit of administrative remedies. Allows such an action against a federal or state governmental entity.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 4, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 4, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.