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PALS 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 Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Aug 4, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1926>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]

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

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Aug 4, 2015
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Sep 9, 2015
Sen. Heitkamp, Heidi [D-ND]	D · ND		Sep 9, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 20, 2015
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 20, 2015
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 26, 2015
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Nov 3, 2015
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Nov 17, 2015
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Nov 19, 2015
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Nov 19, 2015
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Dec 9, 2015
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Dec 16, 2015
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Dec 16, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 14, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 4, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 3339	Related bill	Aug 6, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Aug 4, 2015)

Protecting Access to Lifesaving Screenings Act or the PALS Act

This bill requires that any provision of law referring to current recommendations of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) with respect to breast cancer screening, mammography, and prevention be administered as if: (1) the provision referred to USPSTF recommendations last issued before 2009; and (2) those recommendations applied to any screening mammography modality, including any digital modality of such a procedure. (In 2009, USPSTF updated its guidelines to recommend against routine screening mammography for women between 40 to 49 years of age and to recommend biennial, instead of annual, screening mammography for most women between 50 to 74 years of age.)

In addition, the bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to preserve Medicare coverage for screening mammography, without a requirement for coinsurance, and expand the definition of screening mammography to include any digital modality of such a procedure.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid may not revise the frequency with which screening mammography may be paid by Medicare for a woman over 39 years of age.

Actions Timeline

- Aug 4, 2015: Introduced in Senate
- Aug 4, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.