

## HR 265

Public Option Deficit Reduction Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jan 9, 2015

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jan 16, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/265>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]

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

## Cosponsors (37 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-21]	D · FL		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Farr, Sam [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Honda, Michael M. [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Levin, Sander M. [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Slaughter, Louise McIntosh [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jan 9, 2015
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jan 14, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Jan 14, 2015
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jan 14, 2015
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Feb 12, 2015
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 1, 2015
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Sep 15, 2015
Rep. Edwards, Donna F. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Sep 16, 2015
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		May 11, 2016
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Sep 12, 2016
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Sep 28, 2016

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 16, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of Jan 9, 2015)

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#### Public Option Deficit Reduction Act

Amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to offer a public health insurance option, which is a health benefits plan available through Exchanges that ensures choice, competition, and stability of affordable, high-quality coverage throughout the United States. Declares that HHS's primary responsibility is to create a low-cost plan without compromising quality or access to care.

Sets forth provisions related to the establishment and governance of the public health insurance option, including that such plan: (1) may be made available only through Exchanges; (2) must comply with requirements applicable to other health benefits plans offered through Exchanges, including requirements related to benefits, benefit levels, provider networks, notices, consumer protections, and cost sharing; and (3) must offer bronze, silver, and gold plan levels.

Requires HHS to: (1) establish an office of the ombudsman for the public health insurance option, (2) collect data as may be required to establish premiums and payment rates, (3) establish geographically adjusted premiums at a level sufficient to fully finance the costs of the health benefits provided and administrative costs related to the operation of the plan, and (4) establish payment rates and provide for greater payment rates for the first three years.

Requires repayment of start-up costs for the public health insurance option.

Authorizes HHS to use innovative payment mechanisms and policies to determine payments for items and services under the public health insurance option.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Jan 16, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 9, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.