

## HR 2948

Medicare Telehealth Parity Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jul 7, 2015

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jul 13, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2948>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]

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

**Cosponsors** (67 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Black, Diane [R-TN-6]	R · TN		Jul 7, 2015
Rep. Harper, Gregg [R-MS-3]	R · MS		Jul 7, 2015
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jul 7, 2015
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Jul 14, 2015
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jul 15, 2015
Rep. Jolly, David W. [R-FL-13]	R · FL		Jul 15, 2015
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Jul 23, 2015
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Jul 23, 2015
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jul 28, 2015
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Zinke, Ryan K. [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jul 29, 2015
Rep. Hastings, Alcee L. [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Sep 8, 2015
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Sep 8, 2015
Rep. Nugent, Richard B. [R-FL-11]	R · FL		Sep 8, 2015
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 9, 2015
Rep. Ribble, Reid J. [R-WI-8]	R · WI		Sep 9, 2015
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Sep 10, 2015
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Sep 16, 2015
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Sep 17, 2015
Rep. Graham, Gwen [D-FL-2]	D · FL		Sep 22, 2015
Rep. Boustany, Charles W., Jr. [R-LA-3]	R · LA		Oct 6, 2015
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Oct 22, 2015
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Nov 2, 2015
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Nov 2, 2015
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Nov 2, 2015
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Feb 3, 2016
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Feb 24, 2016
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Mar 23, 2016
Rep. Ashford, Brad [D-NE-2]	D · NE		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-5]	D · FL		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Apr 12, 2016
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Apr 14, 2016

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Graves, Sam [R-MO-6]	R · MO		Apr 19, 2016
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Apr 19, 2016
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2016
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		May 11, 2016
Rep. Emmer, Tom [R-MN-6]	R · MN		May 11, 2016
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		May 11, 2016
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		May 18, 2016
Rep. King, Steve [R-IA-4]	R · IA		May 26, 2016
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		May 26, 2016
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		May 26, 2016
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Jun 9, 2016
Rep. Heck, Denny [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Jun 9, 2016
Rep. LoBiondo, Frank A. [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Jun 9, 2016
Rep. Mooney, Alexander X. [R-WV-2]	R · WV		Jun 13, 2016
Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Jul 1, 2016
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Michael G. [R-PA-8]	R · PA		Jul 6, 2016
Rep. Lance, Leonard [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		Jul 13, 2016
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Jul 14, 2016
Rep. Dold, Robert J. [R-IL-10]	R · IL		Sep 8, 2016
Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Sep 20, 2016
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Sep 28, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 10, 2015
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 13, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Medicare Telehealth Parity Act of 2015

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to expand telehealth coverage in three phases.

Extends the term "originating site," for telehealth service payment purposes, to additional sites, including any federally qualified health center and any rural health clinic, at which the eligible telehealth individual is located at the time the service is furnished via a telecommunications system.

Prohibits application of the originating site facility fee to the additional sites.

Authorizes additional telehealth providers, including a certified diabetes educator or licensed respiratory therapist, audiologist, occupational therapist, physical therapist, or speech language pathologist.

Authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to develop payment methods to apply in the case of anyone who would be an eligible telehealth individual except that the telehealth services are furnished at a site other than an originating site.

Extends Medicare coverage to remote patient management services for certain chronic health conditions.

Authorizes home telehealth sites as additional originating sites.

Requires the monthly fee or other basis of payment for physicians' services to individuals with end stage renal disease (ESRD) to allow for a patient-specific waiver process to permit a physician, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant to request a waiver of face-to-face visit requirements for home dialysis of ESRD patients.

Requires all ESRD patients receiving home dialysis to receive a face-to-face examination at least once every three consecutive months and, in the intervening months, to receive a monthly clinical assessment which may be furnished, if the patient so chooses, via remote monitoring by a physician, clinical nurse specialist, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant.

Directs HHS, in determining the component of a physician's fee corresponding to practice expense relative value units for diagnostic tests provided remotely, to include in direct costs of supplies and equipment the costs of the diagnostic device, clinical systems (including hardware and software), information transmission, and device delivery and installation.

Directs the Government Accountability Office to study the effectiveness of using specified telehealth services between therapy providers and patients, any associated savings, and the potential for greater use of telehealth services for other forms of therapy.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 13, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 10, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jul 7, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 7, 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.