

S 3251

Relief from Obamacare Mandate Act of 2016

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Taxation

Introduced: Jul 14, 2016

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jul 14, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/3251>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH] | R · NH | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC] | R · NC | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI] | R · WI | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK] | R · OK | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ] | R · AZ | | Jul 14, 2016 |
| Sen. Perdue, David [R-GA] | R · GA | | Sep 8, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate | Referred To | Jul 14, 2016 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Taxation

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 114 HR 6019 | Identical bill | Sep 19, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |
| 114 S 3297 | Identical bill | Sep 8, 2016: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 619. |
| 114 HR 2207 | Related bill | May 1, 2015: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. |
| 114 HR 1547 | Related bill | Apr 7, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |
| 114 S 836 | Related bill | Mar 23, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. |

Relief from Obamacare Mandate Act of 2016

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) to exempt individuals with certain premium increases from the requirement under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) to maintain minimum essential health coverage.

The exemption applies to any individual for any month during a year that the individual resides in a state in which the average premium for self-only or family coverage under the second lowest cost silver plans within the state has increased by more than 10% from the prior year.

The bill also requires the cost of annual deductibles to be taken into account in applying the exemption for individuals who cannot afford coverage.

The bill repeals provisions added to the IRC by PPACA that: (1) restrict payments from health savings accounts (HSAs), Archer medical savings accounts (MSAs), and health flexible spending and reimbursement arrangements for medications to prescription drugs and insulin only (thus allowing payments for over-the-counter medications); (2) impose a \$2,500 limitation on salary reduction contributions to a health flexible spending arrangement under a cafeteria plan; and (3) impose an additional tax on HSA and Archer MSA distributions not used for qualified medical expenses.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 14, 2016:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 14, 2016:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.