

S 628

Improving Access to Maternity Care Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 3, 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. (Mar 3, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/628>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]

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

Cosponsors (10 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI] | D · WI | | Mar 3, 2015 |
| Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH] | D · OH | | Mar 12, 2015 |
| Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR] | R · AR | | Mar 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN] | D · MN | | Jul 7, 2015 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Jul 16, 2015 |
| Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO] | R · CO | | Jul 27, 2015 |
| Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR] | D · OR | | Sep 28, 2015 |
| Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC] | R · SC | | Oct 7, 2015 |
| Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK] | R · AK | | Feb 8, 2016 |
| Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM] | D · NM | | May 16, 2016 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee | Senate | Referred To | Mar 3, 2015 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|
| 114 HR 1209 | Identical bill | Nov 15, 2016: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. |

Improving Access to Maternity Care Act

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Health Resources and Services Administration to designate maternity care health professional shortage areas and review these designations at least annually.

The Department of Health and Human Services must collect and publish data on health professional shortage areas so availability of maternal health professionals can be compared by professional category and geographic region.

A maternity care health professional shortage area is: (1) an area determined to have a shortage of providers of full scope maternity care health services or of hospital or birth center labor and delivery units, or (2) a population group determined to have a shortage of such providers or facilities.

Full scope maternity care health services include care during labor, birthing, prenatal care, and postpartum care.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 3, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 3, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.