

S 861

PRIME Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 25, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 183.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 183. (Jul 30, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/861>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]

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

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Enzi, Michael B. [R-WY]	R · WY		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 25, 2015
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Jun 8, 2015
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 24, 2015
Sen. Burr, Richard [R-NC]	R · NC		Jul 8, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 30, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 3718	Related bill	Oct 9, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
114 HR 818	Related bill	Feb 27, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Jul 30, 2015)

Preventing and Reducing Improper Medicare and Medicaid Expenditures Act of 2015 or the PRIME Act of 2015

(Sec. 2) Amends title XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to cover the costs of equipment, salaries and benefits, and travel and training in appropriations for the Medicaid Integrity Program. Allows the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to increase Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services staff whose duties consist solely of protecting the integrity of the Medicare program under SSAct title XVIII by a number determined necessary to carry out the Program (currently, by 100).

(Sec. 3) Directs HHS to provide incentives for Medicare administrative contractors (MACs) to reduce the improper payment error rates in their jurisdictions.

Authorizes among such incentives:

- a sliding scale of award fee payments and additional incentives to MACs that either reduce the improper payment rates in their jurisdictions to certain HHS-determined thresholds or accomplish tasks that further improve payment accuracy; and
- substantial reductions in award fee payments under cost-plus-award-fee contracts for MACs that reach an upper end improper payment rate threshold or fail to accomplish tasks that further improve payment accuracy.

(Sec. 4) Requires imprisonment for up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$500,000 (\$1 million in the case of a corporation), or both, for without lawful authority knowingly and willfully purchasing, selling, distributing, or arranging for the purchase, sale, or distribution of a beneficiary identification number or unique health identifier for a health care provider under SSAct titles XVIII, XIX, or XXI (Children's Health Insurance Program) (CHIP).

(Sec. 5) Directs HHS to establish a plan to encourage and facilitate the participation of states in the Medicare-Medicaid Data Match Program (Medi-Medi Program). Revises Medi-Medi Data Match Program purposes.

Directs HHS to develop and implement a plan that allows state agencies responsible for administering a state Medicaid plan access to relevant data on improper or fraudulent payments made under the Medicare program for health care items or services provided to dual eligible individuals (eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid).

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 30, 2015:** Committee on Finance. Reported by Senator Hatch with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 114-104.
- **Jul 30, 2015:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 183.
- **Jun 24, 2015:** Committee on Finance. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Mar 25, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 25, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.