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State Public Option Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Oct 24, 2017

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Oct 24, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2001>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

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

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Oct 24, 2017
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Nov 7, 2017
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 24, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 24, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 4129	Identical bill	Oct 27, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Oct 24, 2017)

State Public Option Act

This bill allows residents not already eligible for Medicaid who are not concurrently enrolled in other health insurance coverage to buy into a state Medicaid plan beginning January 1, 2018.

The bill makes such buy-in coverage eligible for premium subsidies and reduced cost sharing under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality shall develop standardized, state-level metrics of access to, and satisfaction with, providers for individuals enrolled in state Medicaid plans.

Primary care services furnished under Medicaid by certain providers must be paid at a rate that is not less than the rate under Medicare part B.

Beginning in FY2019, the Department of Health and Human Services may award grants to states for the purpose of improving access to services for individuals enrolled in state Medicaid plans.

The bill provides the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage to every state that expands Medicaid coverage for individuals who are newly eligible under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, regardless of when such expansion takes place.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 24, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 24, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.