

HR 2243

HEARTS Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Apr 28, 2017

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel. (May 23, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2243>

Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]	R · TN		Apr 28, 2017
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		Apr 28, 2017
Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]	R · GA		May 3, 2017
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		May 3, 2017
Rep. Scott, Austin [R-GA-8]	R · GA		May 3, 2017
Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]	D · WI		May 18, 2017
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		May 18, 2017
Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Nov 28, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	May 23, 2017
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 5, 2017
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	May 11, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 6886	Related bill	<b>Oct 1, 2018:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
115 S 1461	Related bill	<b>Jun 28, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

## **Health Equity and Access for Returning Troops and Servicemembers Act or the HEARTS Act**

This bill extends TRICARE eligibility to certain former members of the Armed Forces regardless of whether they enroll (as required under current law) in Medicare's supplementary medical insurance program. Specifically, the bill applies to former members who are: (1) younger than 65 years of age, (2) medically retired from the Armed Forces, and (3) entitled to Medicare hospital insurance benefits on the basis of their former entitlement to disability insurance benefits under the Social Security Act.

Furthermore, these former members shall not be subject to late-enrollment penalties under Medicare's supplemental medical insurance program.

The Department of Defense must coordinate with the Department of Health and Human Services to: (1) identify former members to which the bill applies, (2) counsel those former members on the effects of declining to enroll in Medicare's supplemental medical insurance program, and (3) report to Congress on specified issues related to the bill's implementation.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 23, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **May 11, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 5, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Apr 28, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 28, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and 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.