

## HR 2579

### Broader Options for Americans Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Taxation

**Introduced:** May 19, 2017

**Current Status:** Considered by Senate. (CR S1131-1136, S1138-1148)

**Latest Action:** Considered by Senate. (CR S1131-1136, S1138-1148) (Feb 15, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2579>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Tiberi, Patrick J. [R-OH-12]

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

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Reported By	Jun 2, 2017

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Taxation

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HRES 379	Procedurally related	Jun 15, 2017: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on June 2, 2017. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

### **Broader Options for Americans Act**

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow the premium assistance tax credit to be used for unsubsidized COBRA continuation health coverage.

(Under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 [COBRA], an individual may continue to receive coverage under an employer-sponsored health plan after an event that would otherwise end coverage, such as a termination of employment. This bill applies to COBRA continuation coverage if the premiums are solely the obligation of the taxpayer.)

"COBRA continuation coverage" includes continuation coverage provided under:

- the Internal Revenue Code, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), the Public Health Service Act, or the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program;
- a state law or program that provides comparable coverage; or
- a church plan that provides comparable coverage.

It does not include coverage under a health flexible spending arrangement.

For the coverage to qualify for the tax credit, the plan administrator of the group health plan must certify that the COBRA continuation coverage meets the requirements for qualified health plans.

The bill is contingent on the enactment of the American Health Care Act of 2017 and applies (if at all) after December 31, 2019.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Feb 15, 2018:** Considered by Senate. (CR S1131-1136, S1138-1148)
- **Feb 14, 2018:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (consideration: CR S930-965)
- **Feb 14, 2018:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure agreed to in Senate by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 14, 2018:** Measure laid before Senate by motion.
- **Feb 13, 2018:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (consideration: CR S890-895, S895-903)
- **Feb 12, 2018:** Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate. (consideration: CR S856-868)
- **Feb 12, 2018:** Cloture on the motion to proceed to the measure invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 97 - 1. Record Vote Number: 32. (CR S867-868)
- **Feb 9, 2018:** Motion to proceed to consideration of measure made in Senate. (consideration: CR S849-850)
- **Feb 9, 2018:** Cloture motion on the motion to proceed to the consideration of the measure presented in Senate. (consideration: CR S849-850)
- **Feb 6, 2018:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 302.
- **Feb 5, 2018:** Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Rule H. Res. 379 passed House.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 379. (consideration: CR H4929-4931)
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2372 and H.R. 2579, with 1 hour of general debate for each bill. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except a motion to recommit with or without instructions on each bill. Both measures will be considered read and are closed to amendments.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 2579.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 267 - 144 (Roll no. 308). (text: CR H4929)
- **Jun 15, 2017:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 267 - 144 (Roll no. 308). (text: CR H4929)
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 15, 2017:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jun 12, 2017:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 379 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2372 and H.R. 2579. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2372 and H.R. 2579, with 1 hour of general debate for each bill. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except a motion to recommit with or without instructions on each bill. Both measures will be considered read and are closed to amendments.
- **Jun 2, 2017:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 115-160.
- **Jun 2, 2017:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 107.
- **May 19, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **May 19, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.