

HR 3704

Native Health Access Improvement Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Sep 7, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs. (Sep 13, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3704>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Sep 7, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 8, 2017
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 13, 2017
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 7, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 2545	Related bill	Mar 14, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

## **Native Health Access Improvement Act of 2017**

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Indian Health Service (IHS) to award grants to Indian health facilities for the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders. The IHS must establish a technical assistance center for grantees.

In addition, this bill amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to define “Indian” for purposes of health insurance reform, exchanges, and subsidies. The definition includes individuals of Indian descent who are members of an Indian community served by the IHS and individuals considered by the Department of Health and Human Services to be Indian for purposes of eligibility for Indian health care services. Individuals included in the definition are eligible for special monthly enrollment periods on health insurance exchanges and elimination of cost sharing under individual health coverage for those whose income is not more than 300% of the poverty line. Under current law, only members of Indian tribes are eligible for these benefits.

The bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to exempt Indians, as defined by this bill, from the requirement to maintain minimum essential health coverage.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Sep 13, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.
- **Sep 8, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 7, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 7, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, 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.