

## S 46

### Strengthening Medicare Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jan 5, 2017

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Jan 5, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/46>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Heller, Dean [R-NV]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** NV • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 5, 2017
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Jan 5, 2017

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 5, 2017

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 4136	Related bill	<b>Oct 27, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Strengthening Medicare Intensive Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs Act of 2017**

This bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to revise requirements related the approval of intensive cardiac rehabilitation programs by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for purposes of Medicare coverage.

To be approved by CMS as an intensive cardiac rehabilitation program under current law, a program must show that it: (1) positively affected the progression of coronary heart disease or reduced the need for either coronary bypass surgery or percutaneous coronary interventions, and (2) accomplished a significant reduction in other specified health measures. The bill instead requires a program to show that it: (1) reversed the progression of coronary heart disease or reduced the need for coronary bypass surgery; and (2) accomplished, in addition to a significant reduction in other specified health measures, a significant increase in the measure of blood flow to the heart. The bill further requires a program to show, using research of its own program, that these measures were accomplished by lifestyle changes alone.

The bill removes the specific requirement that such a program be "physician-supervised" but retains other existing requirements for program supervision.

A program that was approved by CMS as an intensive cardiac rehabilitation program prior to August 1, 2015, shall be deemed to have met these requirements.

To be eligible for an intensive cardiac rehabilitation program under current law, an individual must have had one of several specified conditions or interventions. The bill adds to the list of qualifying conditions: (1) stable, chronic heart failure; and (2) any additional condition that CMS determines shall be covered under such a program.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 5, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 5, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.