

S 794

Local Coverage Determination Clarification Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 30, 2017

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Mar 30, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/794>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Isakson, Johnny [R-GA]

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

Cosponsors (22 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Mar 30, 2017
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Mar 30, 2017
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 30, 2017
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		Apr 24, 2017
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Apr 27, 2017
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 20, 2017
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Aug 3, 2017
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Sep 6, 2017
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Sep 6, 2017
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Oct 2, 2017
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Nov 7, 2017
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Nov 7, 2017
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Nov 13, 2017
Sen. Donnelly, Joe [D-IN]	D · IN		Dec 12, 2017
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		May 8, 2018
Sen. Cotton, Tom [R-AR]	R · AR		May 14, 2018
Sen. Kennedy, John [R-LA]	R · LA		Jun 19, 2018
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jun 26, 2018
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jul 10, 2018
Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]	R · KY		Jul 24, 2018
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Oct 1, 2018
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Dec 18, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 30, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 3635	Related bill	Sep 17, 2018: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Mar 30, 2017)

Local Coverage Determination Clarification Act of 2017

This bill amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to revise the process by which Medicare administrative contractors (MACs) issue and reconsider local coverage determinations (LCDs) that: (1) are new, (2) restrict or substantively revise existing LCDs, or (3) are otherwise specified in regulation. (MACs are private insurers that process Medicare claims within specified geographic areas.)

Before such an LCD may take effect, the MAC issuing the determination must, with respect to each geographic area to which the determination applies:

- publish online a proposed version of the determination and other specified, related information;
- convene one or more public meetings to review the draft determination, receive comments, and secure the advice of an expert panel;
- post online a record of the minutes from each such meeting;
- provide a period for submission of written public comments; and
- post online specified information related to the rationale for the final determination.

Upon the filing of an applicable request by an interested party with regard to the reconsideration of a specified LCD, the MAC that issued the determination shall:

- provide specified information related to whether the determination failed to correctly apply qualifying relevant evidence, exceeds the scope of its intended purpose, fails to apply as intended, or is otherwise erroneous;
- preserve the determination, modify the determination, or rescind the determination in part; and
- make publicly available a written description of such action.

An interested party may appeal a reconsideration decision to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The CMS shall appoint a Medicare Reviews and Appeals Ombudsman to carry out specified duties with regard to LCDs.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 30, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 30, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.