

S 1280

BENES Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 2, 2019

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (May 2, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1280>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		May 2, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 2, 2019
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		May 2, 2019
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		May 2, 2019
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		May 2, 2019
Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]	R · FL		Oct 17, 2019
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Oct 17, 2019
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		Mar 2, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 2, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 2, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 2477	Identical bill	Dec 9, 2020: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification Act of 2019 or the BENES Act of 2019

This bill makes a series of changes to, and requires additional notifications regarding, the Medicare enrollment process.

Specifically, the bill changes the Medicare general enrollment period to October 15-December 31, and requires coverage to begin on the first day of the month following enrollment. (Currently, the general enrollment period is January 1-March 31, and coverage begins July 1.) The bill also generally requires coverage to begin on the first day of the month following enrollment for individuals who enroll in the latter months of their initial enrollment period. (Currently, the longer an individual waits to enroll, the more delayed the effective date of coverage.)

The bill also requires Social Security account statements for individuals ages 60 to 64 to include information about Medicare eligibility, late enrollment penalties, coordination of benefits, and special enrollment populations (e.g., veterans).

Actions Timeline

- **May 2, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
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