

HR 2477

Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 2, 2019

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

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Dec 9, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2477>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		May 2, 2019
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]	D · IL		May 2, 2019
Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]	R · IN		May 2, 2019
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Sep 11, 2019
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Oct 16, 2019
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Oct 16, 2019
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Nov 22, 2019
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Nov 22, 2019
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Nov 22, 2019
Rep. Steil, Bryan [R-WI-1]	R · WI		Nov 22, 2019
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Jan 10, 2020
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jan 10, 2020
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jan 10, 2020
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Feb 7, 2020
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Feb 7, 2020
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Feb 7, 2020
Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6]	D · PA		Feb 27, 2020
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Sep 17, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	Mar 11, 2020
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 9, 2020
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	May 2, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5821	Related bill	Dec 17, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 544.
116 HR 1375	Related bill	Dec 9, 2020: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 S 3353	Related bill	Feb 27, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 S 1989	Related bill	Jun 26, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 S 1280	Identical bill	May 2, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Dec 8, 2020)

Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification Act of 2020 or the BENES Act of 2020

This bill modifies requirements relating to Medicare enrollment, coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant recipients, secondary payer reporting, and hospice survey requirements.

Among other provisions, the bill

- generally requires Medicare 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;
- requires Social Security account statements for individuals attaining ages 63 to 65 to include information about Medicare eligibility, late enrollment penalties, and other information;
- indefinitely extends Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant recipients for individuals who do not have other coverage;
- requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to share Medicare Advantage and Medicare prescription drug benefit enrollment information with liability insurers in response to Medicare secondary payer inquiries; and
- establishes survey requirements for, and enforcement mechanisms against, certified hospice programs under Medicare.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 9, 2020:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **Dec 8, 2020:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 116-621, Part I.
- **Dec 8, 2020:** Mr. Larson (CT) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Dec 8, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6993-7000)
- **Dec 8, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2477.
- **Dec 8, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.
- **Dec 8, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6993-6997)
- **Dec 8, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 15, 2020:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 15, 2020:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Mar 11, 2020:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Mar 11, 2020:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) .
- **Jan 8, 2020:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **May 3, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 2, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **May 2, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.