

S 2741

CONNECT for Health Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Oct 30, 2019

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Oct 30, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2741>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

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

Cosponsors (46 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Oct 30, 2019
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Oct 30, 2019
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Oct 30, 2019
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Oct 30, 2019
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Oct 30, 2019
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. McSally, Martha [R-AZ]	R · AZ		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Nov 14, 2019
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Nov 19, 2019
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Nov 19, 2019
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 21, 2019
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Nov 21, 2019
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Dec 2, 2019
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Dec 2, 2019
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 2, 2019
Sen. Paul, Rand [R-KY]	R · KY		Dec 2, 2019
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Dec 9, 2019
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Dec 9, 2019
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Dec 11, 2019
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Dec 11, 2019
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Dec 12, 2019
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Dec 12, 2019
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Dec 19, 2019
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Dec 19, 2019
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 16, 2020
Sen. Scott, Tim [R-SC]	R · SC		Jan 16, 2020
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Jun 15, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 15, 2020
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Jun 24, 2020
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 24, 2020
Sen. Alexander, Lamar [R-TN]	R · TN		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 30, 2020
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Sep 10, 2020
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Sep 10, 2020

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Oct 22, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Nov 18, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 30, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5201	Related bill	Dec 24, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 580.
116 S 4796	Related bill	Oct 5, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 HR 8527	Related bill	Oct 2, 2020: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, the Judiciary, Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Rules, the Budget, and Armed Services, 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.
116 HR 4932	Identical bill	Nov 1, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Oct 30, 2019)

Creating Opportunities Now for Necessary and Effective Care Technologies for Health Act of 2019 or the CONNECT for Health Act of 2019

This bill expands coverage of telehealth services under Medicare.

Among other things, the bill

- allows the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to waive certain restrictions, such as geographic restrictions, for services provided in high-need health professional shortage areas;
- excludes mental health and emergency medical services, as well as services provided at rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers, and Indian Health Service facilities, from such geographic restrictions; and
- allows the CMS to generally waive coverage restrictions during national emergencies.

Additionally, the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission must report on information relating to the access of Medicare beneficiaries to telehealth services at home. The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation may also test alternative payment models relating to expanded telehealth services.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 30, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 30, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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