

HR 2781

EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 16, 2019

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Oct 29, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2781>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]

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

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]	R · TX		May 16, 2019
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Jul 12, 2019
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jul 22, 2019
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Jul 25, 2019
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Aug 6, 2019
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Sep 17, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	Jul 11, 2019
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 29, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 2443	Related bill	Sep 9, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5364)
116 HR 3637	Related bill	Jul 10, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Summary (as of Oct 28, 2019)

Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness for Health Act of 2019 or the EMPOWER for Health Act of 2019

This bill reauthorizes through FY2024 certain Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) training and education grants programs for health care professionals, including, among others, funding to increase the number of health care professionals from underrepresented groups.

The bill also revises and reauthorizes through FY2024 the HRSA Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program and the Geriatrics Academic Career Award Program. Grants under these programs may be used to (1) support clinical training and integrate health care services for older adults and (2) promote the career development of eligible faculty specializing in geriatric health. HRSA must prioritize the funding of training and services in rural and underserved areas.

Further, the bill reauthorizes the pediatric specialty loan repayment program. The program provides qualified pediatric medical specialists or child and adolescent mental, behavioral, and psychiatric health specialists up to three years of loan repayment in exchange for two years of service providing health care in an area with limited access to such care.

Finally, the bill establishes grants for education programs to provide scholarships or stipends to students from underrepresented groups who are enrolled in programs for physical or occupational therapy, audiology, or speech-language pathology.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 29, 2019:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
- **Oct 28, 2019:** Ms. Schakowsky moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Oct 28, 2019:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8509-8513)
- **Oct 28, 2019:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2781.
- **Oct 28, 2019:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H8509-8511)
- **Oct 28, 2019:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H8509-8511)
- **Oct 28, 2019:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 24, 2019:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 116-214.
- **Sep 24, 2019:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 169.
- **Jul 17, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 17, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jul 11, 2019:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 11, 2019:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- **May 17, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 16, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **May 16, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.