

S 3644

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID–19 Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 7, 2020

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (May 7, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3644>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 7, 2020
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 7, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 6872	Related bill	May 14, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
116 HR 6698	Identical bill	May 5, 2020: 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.

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID-19 Act of 2020

This bill modifies several requirements for Medicare skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and Medicaid nursing facilities (NFs) during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019).

Specifically, SNFs and NFs must comply with specified quality of care, worker safety, and transparency requirements, subject to civil penalties. Requirements include (1) testing residents and employees for COVID-19 weekly or before shifts, respectively, and reporting any lack of available testing kits on a daily basis; (2) providing at least two weeks of paid sick leave to each employee; and (3) reporting the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths, including demographic information, on a daily basis.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services must also distribute funds to allow states to establish strike teams that may be deployed to SNFs and NFs within 72 hours of three or more COVID-19 diagnoses to help separate those who have been exposed, supervise testing, and ensure enforcement of whistleblower protections, among other needs. Teams must include members of the National Guard, public health officials, medical experts, and representatives of residents and workers.

Actions Timeline

- **May 7, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 7, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.