

S 4526

Coronavirus Language Access Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 12, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Aug 12, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4526>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]

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

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Aug 12, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Sep 8, 2020
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 16, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Nov 10, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 12, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Aug 12, 2020)

Coronavirus Language Access Act

This bill requires the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal agencies to take actions to expand access to information about COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) for those with limited English proficiency. It also provides emergency funding to the Administration on Community Living for FY2020 to increase access to such information for those who have limited English proficiency and are older individuals, individuals with disabilities, or individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Among other requirements, the CDC must award grants to, or enter cooperative agreements with, community-based organizations or governmental health departments to offer interpretive services for individuals receiving COVID-19 tests and otherwise provide information about COVID-19 and other public health activities in certain languages other than English. The CDC must also translate, within seven days, certain COVID-19 materials into specified languages other than English and must operate a hotline staffed by trained interpreters to provide information about COVID-19 to the public.

In addition, any federal agency that receives funding pursuant to a COVID-19 response law must translate, within seven days, materials that describe programs and opportunities related to COVID-19 into specified languages other than English and must provide oral language assistance services to those with limited English proficiency.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 12, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 12, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.