

HR 4533

Native Health Access Improvement Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Sep 26, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States. (Oct 7, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4533>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Sep 26, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 27, 2019
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 7, 2019
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 26, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 3126	Related bill	Sep 23, 2020: Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-359.

Native Health Access Improvement Act of 2019

This bill establishes a grant program for Indian health facilities and expands the applicability of certain federal health care provisions to American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Specifically, the bill provides funds for and requires the Indian Health Service (IHS) to award grants to Indian health facilities for the prevention and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders. The IHS must establish a technical assistance center for grantees.

The bill defines *Indian* for purposes of health insurance reform, exchanges, and subsidies to include individuals of Indian descent who are members of an Indian community served by the IHS and individuals considered by the Department of Health and Human Services to be Indian for purposes of eligibility for Indian health care services. Individuals included in the definition are eligible for special monthly enrollment periods on health insurance exchanges and elimination of cost sharing under individual health coverage for those whose income is not more than 300% of the poverty line. Under current law, only members of Indian tribes are eligible for these benefits.

The bill also exempts Indians, as defined by the bill, from the tax penalty for not maintaining minimum essential health coverage.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 7, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States.
- **Sep 27, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Natural Resources, 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.
- **Sep 26, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.