

## S 4714

### Worker Health Coverage Protection Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Sep 24, 2020

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S5869-5874)

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S5869-5874) (Sep 24, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4714>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

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

### Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 24, 2020
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Sep 29, 2020
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Oct 21, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 24, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4329	Related bill	<b>Jul 27, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 HR 6800	Related bill	<b>Jul 23, 2020:</b> Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 116-517.
116 HR 6514	Related bill	<b>Apr 14, 2020:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## Summary (as of Sep 24, 2020)

### Worker Health Coverage Protection Act

This bill provides health insurance premium assistance to individuals who become unemployed or are furloughed during the period beginning on March 1, 2020, and ending on January 31, 2021. Specifically, the bill treats such premiums as paid for individuals who (1) are terminated from employment and elect to continue insurance coverage through the COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) program during such period, or (2) receive more than a 30% reduction in work hours during such period but remain eligible for coverage under a group health plan. The bill also specifies requirements for individuals changing, or enrolling in, health plans under the program.

Additionally, the bill requires employers to provide eligible individuals specified written notice about the premium assistance program, including, among other information, available health plan enrollment options and the date that such assistance expires.

The Department of the Treasury must reimburse employers, group health plans, and insurance issuers through a payroll tax credit or refund for unpaid premiums that were treated as paid under the program.

Premium assistance is not considered income for federal income tax purposes or for determining eligibility for federal or state benefits or assistance.

### Actions Timeline

- **Sep 24, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 24, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S5869-5874)

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