

## HR 7898

To amend the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to consider certain recognized security practices of covered entities and business associates when making certain determinations, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jul 31, 2020

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 116-321.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 116-321. (Jan 5, 2021)

**Law:** 116-321 (Enacted Jan 5, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7898>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Jul 31, 2020
Rep. Taylor, Van [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Dec 7, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 31, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 19	Related bill	Dec 19, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law.
116 HR 2296	Related bill	Sep 24, 2019: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 170.
116 S 1895	Related bill	Jul 8, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 133.

This bill addresses health information technology provisions concerning cybersecurity practices and information blocking.

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) may reduce fines and penalties for violations of certain federal privacy standards for health information if an entity subject to those standards has adopted particular cybersecurity practices.

This bill also authorizes HHS's Office of the Inspector General to obtain information, assistance, and other support from federal agencies when investigating claims of information blocking by developers of, or entities offering, health information technologies.

*Information blocking* refers to a practice that is likely to interfere with, prevent, or materially discourage access, exchange, or use of electronic health information, such as the imposition of fees that make exchanging this information cost prohibitive.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 5, 2021:** Signed by President.
- **Jan 5, 2021:** Became Public Law No: 116-321.
- **Dec 24, 2020:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 20, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 19, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 19, 2020:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S7853)
- **Dec 10, 2020:** Received in the Senate, read twice.
- **Dec 9, 2020:** Mr. Pallone moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Dec 9, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7088-7092)
- **Dec 9, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 7898.
- **Dec 9, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.
- **Dec 9, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H7088-7089)
- **Dec 9, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 9, 2020:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 31, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 31, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.