

S 981

Medicare-X Choice Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Apr 2, 2019

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Apr 2, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/981>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Apr 2, 2019
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Apr 2, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Apr 2, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 2000	Identical bill	Dec 10, 2019: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Medicare-X Choice Act of 2019

This bill establishes and funds the Medicare Exchange health plan, which allows individuals who are not otherwise eligible for Medicare to enroll in a government-administered health insurance plan. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) must offer such plan in certain individual health insurance exchanges beginning plan year 2021 and offer it in all individual health insurance exchanges beginning plan year 2024. CMS must offer the plan in the small group market in all geographic areas for plan year 2025.

The plan must meet the same requirements, including essential health benefits, as existing health insurance exchange plans.

Unless they opt out, health care providers enrolled under Medicare or under a state Medicaid plan must participate in the plan and are reimbursed at Medicare rates.

The bill establishes a grants program for community organizations, educational institutions, and health agencies to create service partnerships and establish interactive data systems for health care providers.

Additionally, the bill expands the premium tax credit available for plans purchased through an exchange and eliminates the restriction on the Department of Health and Human Services negotiating prescription drug prices for Medicare.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 2, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 2, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.