

S 1795

Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 24, 2021

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. (May 24, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1795>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]

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

Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		May 24, 2021
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		May 24, 2021
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		May 24, 2021
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		May 24, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		May 24, 2021
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		May 24, 2021
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		May 24, 2021
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		May 24, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		May 24, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 24, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		May 24, 2021
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 26, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 8, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jul 11, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 24, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 4917	Related bill	Sep 22, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
117 S 4486	Related bill	Jun 23, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 1475	Related bill	May 13, 2021: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Summary (as of May 24, 2021)

Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act

This bill establishes and expands programs to address racial and ethnic disparities in mental health.

Specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must award grants to establish interprofessional behavioral health care teams in areas with a high proportion of racial and ethnic minority groups. In addition, HHS may award grants to incorporate best practices and competencies to address mental health disparities in curricula for training social workers, psychologists, and other behavioral health professionals.

HHS must also promote behavioral and mental health and reduce stigma associated with mental health conditions and substance use disorder through outreach to racial and ethnic minority groups. HHS must consult with appropriate advocacy groups and behavioral health organizations to develop a strategy for this outreach.

The bill also (1) reauthorizes the minority fellowship program to support the education of mental health professionals who provide services to racial and ethnic minorities, and (2) requires studies on mental health disparities and the effects of social media use on adolescents.

Actions Timeline

- **May 24, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 24, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.