

HR 2163

Safe Step Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 23, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor. (Mar 23, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2163>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]

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

Cosponsors (197 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. McBath, Lucy [D-GA-6] | D · GA | | Mar 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-2] | R · IA | | Mar 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Wenstrup, Brad R. [R-OH-2] | R · OH | | Mar 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12] | R · GA | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large] | D · DE | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1] | D · OR | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1] | D · CO | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1] | D · WA | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1] | R · PA | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13] | R · PA | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Manning, Kathy E. [D-NC-6] | D · NC | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4] | R · MS | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3] | D · NY | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2] | R · IN | | Apr 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Brady, Kevin [R-TX-8] | R · TX | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1] | D · HI | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6] | D · CO | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3] | D · KS | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Green, Mark E. [R-TN-7] | R · TN | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Guest, Michael [R-MS-3] | R · MS | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Hill, J. French [R-AR-2] | R · AR | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6] | D · WA | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8] | D · IL | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2] | D · NH | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9] | D · MI | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4] | D · MN | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4] | D · WI | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1] | D · ME | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2] | D · NC | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Rutherford, John H. [R-FL-4] | R · FL | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5] | D · PA | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11] | D · MI | | May 7, 2021 |
| Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13] | R · IL | | May 11, 2021 |
| Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31] | D · CA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2] | R · NV | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2] | R · NE | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Bourdeaux, Carolyn [D-GA-7] | D · GA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26] | D · CA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Cheney, Liz [R-WY-At Large] | R · WY | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9] | D · TN | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4] | R · OK | | Jun 16, 2021 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Gonzalez, Anthony [R-OH-16] | R · OH | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5] | D · NJ | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6] | R · WI | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Johnson, Dusty [R-SD-At Large] | R · SD | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4] | D · GA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Kinzinger, Adam [R-IL-16] | R · IL | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Lamb, Conor [D-PA-17] | D · PA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8] | D · MA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1] | R · SC | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32] | D · CA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Pence, Greg [R-IN-6] | R · IN | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45] | D · CA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4] | D · NC | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1] | D · IL | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8] | D · WA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10] | D · WA | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20] | D · NY | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6] | D · MD | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3] | D · KY | | Jun 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Auchincloss, Jake [D-MA-4] | D · MA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7] | D · CA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5] | D · MO | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-18] | D · PA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2] | R · FL | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7] | D · TX | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3] | D · AZ | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24] | R · NY | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1] | R · MS | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Lawson, Al, Jr. [D-FL-5] | D · FL | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33] | D · CA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11] | R · NY | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12] | D · NY | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2] | D · MA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1] | R · WV | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2] | D · CO | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52] | D · CA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2] | D · WI | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13] | D · OH | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-11] | R · PA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-15] | R · PA | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large] | R · AK | | Jul 29, 2021 |
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Sep 10, 2021 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Frankel, Lois [D-FL-21] | D · FL | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Graves, Garret [R-LA-6] | R · LA | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Herrera Beutler, Jaime [R-WA-3] | R · WA | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Jackson, Ronny [R-TX-13] | R · TX | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3] | D · NJ | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7] | D · NJ | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8] | R · FL | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8] | D · MD | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10] | R · OH | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7] | D · PA | | Sep 10, 2021 |
| Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20] | D · TX | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6] | D · PA | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. McEachin, A. Donald [D-VA-4] | D · VA | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25] | D · NY | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27] | R · FL | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7] | D · VA | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17] | R · FL | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15] | D · CA | | Oct 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7] | D · CO | | Oct 15, 2021 |
| Rep. Womack, Steve [R-AR-3] | R · AR | | Oct 15, 2021 |
| Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8] | R · IN | | Nov 5, 2021 |
| Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26] | R · TX | | Nov 5, 2021 |
| Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29] | D · CA | | Nov 5, 2021 |
| Rep. Murphy, Gregory [R-NC-3] | R · NC | | Nov 5, 2021 |
| Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9] | D · FL | | Nov 5, 2021 |
| Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32] | D · TX | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18] | D · CA | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Fortenberry, Jeff [R-NE-1] | R · NE | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Keller, Fred [R-PA-12] | R · PA | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6] | D · NY | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1] | D · NH | | Mar 7, 2022 |
| Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2] | D · CT | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4] | D · PA | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Kahele, Kaiali'i [D-HI-2] | D · HI | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Mann, Tracey [R-KS-1] | R · KS | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23] | D · FL | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5] | D · GA | | May 6, 2022 |
| Resident Commissioner González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large] | R · PR | | May 6, 2022 |
| Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12] | D · NC | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3] | R · IN | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12] | R · FL | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14] | D · FL | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Cawthorn, Madison [R-NC-11] | R · NC | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1] | D · RI | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13] | D · NY | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3] | D · PA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-7] | D · AZ | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8] | D · NY | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Jones, Mondaire [D-NY-17] | D · NY | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14] | R · OH | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2] | D · IL | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2] | D · RI | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1] | D · CT | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. LaTurner, Jake [R-KS-2] | R · KS | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Luria, Elaine G. [D-VA-2] | D · VA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5] | D · IL | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2] | D · MD | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9] | D · IL | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Scott, David [D-GA-13] | D · GA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3] | R · NE | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3] | D · MA | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2] | R · NJ | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Van Duyne, Beth [R-TX-24] | R · TX | | Jul 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44] | D · CA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8] | D · VA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3] | D · OR | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16] | D · NY | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1] | R · GA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18] | D · TX | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1] | R · CA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6] | D · CA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28] | D · CA | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10] | D · IL | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7] | D · AL | | Jul 26, 2022 |
| Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12] | R · OH | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Cline, Ben [R-VA-6] | R · VA | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16] | D · CA | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. LaHood, Darin [R-IL-18] | R · IL | | Sep 9, 2022 |

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18] | D · NY | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3] | D · MN | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38] | D · CA | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7] | D · NY | | Sep 9, 2022 |
| Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4] | D · MD | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1] | R · OH | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Clark, Katherine M. [D-MA-5] | D · MA | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7] | D · IL | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14] | D · MI | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19] | D · CA | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1] | D · AZ | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20] | D · CA | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11] | D · NJ | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-8] | D · MI | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1] | R · VA | | Oct 4, 2022 |
| Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2] | D · LA | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4] | D · CT | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4] | D · NV | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-53] | D · CA | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7] | R · MO | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9] | D · CA | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9] | D · NJ | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10] | D · NJ | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large] | D · VT | | Oct 31, 2022 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Dec 15, 2022 |
| Rep. Demings, Val Butler [D-FL-10] | D · FL | | Dec 15, 2022 |
| Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6] | D · MA | | Dec 15, 2022 |
| Rep. Mrvan, Frank J. [D-IN-1] | D · IN | | Dec 15, 2022 |
| Rep. Stanton, Greg [D-AZ-9] | D · AZ | | Dec 15, 2022 |
| Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13] | D · CA | | Dec 23, 2022 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Education and Workforce Committee | House | Referred To | Mar 23, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 117 S 464 | Identical bill | Feb 25, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. |

Safe Step Act

This bill requires a group health plan to establish an exception to medication step-therapy protocol in specified cases. A medication step-therapy protocol establishes a specific sequence in which prescription drugs are covered by a group health plan or a health insurance issuer.

A request for such an exception to the protocol must be granted if (1) an otherwise required treatment has been ineffective, (2) such treatment is expected to be ineffective and delaying effective treatment would lead to irreversible consequences, (3) such treatment will cause or is likely to cause an adverse reaction to the individual, (4) such treatment is expected to prevent the individual from performing daily activities or occupational responsibilities, (5) the individual is stable based on the prescription drugs already selected, or (6) there are other circumstances as determined by the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

The bill requires a group health plan to implement and make readily available a clear process for an individual to request an exception to the protocol, including required information and criteria for granting an exception. The bill further specifies timelines under which plans must respond to such requests.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 23, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 23, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.