

## S 2691

### Strengthening the Vaccines for Children Program Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Aug 10, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S6

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S6282) (Aug 10, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2691>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]

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

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Aug 10, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jun 13, 2022

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 10, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2347	Related bill	Jul 21, 2021: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

## **Strengthening the Vaccines for Children Program Act of 2021**

This bill modifies vaccination programs and coverage for children under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Specifically, the bill expands and otherwise modifies the Vaccines for Children Program, which provides free vaccinations to individuals 18 years of age or younger who are uninsured or underinsured (i.e., with limited or no insurance for vaccines), are eligible for Medicaid, or are American Indians or Alaskan Natives. The bill expands the program to include children enrolled in CHIP. The Government Accountability Office must report on the related effects of the bill's changes.

The bill also expands coverage under Medicaid to include vaccine counseling and educational services for children. It also temporarily increases the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (i.e., federal matching rate) for states that conduct culturally appropriate outreach regarding the benefits of vaccinations for children.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Aug 10, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 10, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S6282)