

HR 2713

Territorial Equity Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Apr 20, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations. (Jun 15, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2713>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 20, 2021
Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Apr 20, 2021
Rep. Torres, Ritchie [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Apr 20, 2021
Del. San Nicolas, Michael F. Q. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Jul 18, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 15, 2021
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 20, 2021
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 21, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 20, 2021
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Apr 20, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 1228	Identical bill	Apr 20, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 265	Related bill	Feb 2, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 HR 105	Related bill	Jan 4, 2021: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Territorial Equity Act of 2021

This bill alters provisions relating to the treatment of U.S. territories under Medicaid, Medicare, Medicare Advantage, the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, and other federal assistance programs.

The bill modifies provisions under several health care programs with respect to U.S. territories. Among other changes, the bill

- eliminates Medicaid funding limitations for U.S. territories beginning in FY2022,
- repeals provisions that exclude residents of Puerto Rico from a certain automatic enrollment process for Medicare medical services,
- establishes minimum criteria for certain elements used in Medicare Advantage payment calculations for areas within U.S. territories, and
- allows residents of U.S. territories who are unable to obtain health insurance through their employer or a health insurance exchange to instead obtain coverage that is at least as broad as the coverage available to Members of Congress and their staff through the District of Columbia exchange.

The bill also modifies provisions under other federal assistance programs. Among other changes, the bill

- allows Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands to participate in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program);
- makes residents of Puerto Rico eligible for the federal earned income tax credit; and
- extends the SSI program to Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 15, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations.
- **Apr 21, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Apr 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 20, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Agriculture, Education and Labor, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.