

## S 352

### Health Care Improvement Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Feb 22, 2021

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

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 22, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/352>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]

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

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 22, 2021

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 7774	Related bill	<b>May 13, 2022:</b> Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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.
117 HR 4066	Related bill	<b>Jun 23, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 S 999	Related bill	<b>Mar 25, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 S 833	Related bill	<b>Mar 18, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 1874	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 HR 1878	Related bill	<b>Mar 16, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 HR 1806	Related bill	<b>Mar 12, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 HR 1353	Related bill	<b>Feb 26, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 S 439	Related bill	<b>Feb 25, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 369	Related bill	<b>Feb 4, 2021:</b> Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H332)
117 S 245	Related bill	<b>Feb 4, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HR 340	Related bill	<b>Jan 18, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Health Care Improvement Act of 2021**

This bill makes various changes to the health care marketplace, such as expanding premium assistance, encouraging states to expand Medicaid, and establishing a public health insurance option.

First, the bill expands the premium tax credit that provides assistance, based on household income, for the cost of insurance plans purchased through an exchange. The bill also provides funding for state reinsurance payments to health insurance issuers and funding for insurance-related costs for individuals enrolled in plans through individual marketplaces. It also rescinds certain rules and guidance related to short-term, limited duration plans and the state innovation waiver program.

Additionally, the bill begins the seven-year period of federal assistance for states expanding coverage under Medicaid when a state expands coverage and the bill reduces assistance to states that do not expand coverage.

Further, the bill establishes a public health insurance option that is available through individual marketplaces. Providers participating in Medicare or Medicaid also must participate in the public option.

The bill also makes changes with respect to payments for rural health providers and permits small group market plans to be offered across state lines.

The bill authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to negotiate with manufacturers for the prices of prescription drugs offered through Medicare.

Finally, the bill establishes guidelines for employers to provide information about available health coverage and requires the Government Accountability Office to evaluate the employer notification process for the advance payment of premium tax credits.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 22, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 22, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.