

S 4723

Let Doctors Provide Reproductive Health Care Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 2, 2022

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Aug 2, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4723>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]

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

Cosponsors (32 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO] | D · CO | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT] | D · CT | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD] | D · MD | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV] | D · NV | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL] | D · IL | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL] | D · IL | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA] | D · CA | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM] | D · NM | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI] | D · HI | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN] | D · MN | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM] | D · NM | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA] | D · MA | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ] | D · NJ | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR] | D · OR | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT] | D · CT | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA] | D · CA | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI] | D · RI | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV] | D · NV | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT] | I · VT | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH] | D · NH | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN] | D · MN | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI] | D · MI | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD] | D · MD | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI] | D · RI | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR] | D · OR | | Aug 2, 2022 |
| Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA] | D · WA | | Aug 3, 2022 |
| Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO] | D · CO | | Aug 3, 2022 |
| Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA] | D · GA | | Aug 3, 2022 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Aug 4, 2022 |
| Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT] | D · VT | | Sep 29, 2022 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Judiciary Committee | Senate | Referred To | Aug 2, 2022 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 117 HR 8650 | Related bill | Nov 1, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties. |

Summary (as of Aug 2, 2022)

Let Doctors Provide Reproductive Health Care Act

This bill sets out protections for and establishes programs to support health care providers (and those who assist such providers) who offer reproductive health care services that are lawful in the state where the services are provided. *Reproductive health care services* refer to abortion services; contraceptive services; in vitro fertilization; or other reproductive care, education, and counseling that is provided (1) at a health care site or via telehealth, and (2) in a medically accurate manner.

The bill prohibits individuals, entities, and states from preventing, restricting, or otherwise interfering with the provision of lawful reproductive health care services by health care providers. The Department of Justice, individuals, or providers may bring a lawsuit to enforce this bill, and states are not immune from suits for violations.

Furthermore, states may not use federal funds to pursue legal cases or similar proceedings (e.g., adverse licensing proceedings) against health care providers, individuals, or entities that offer or assist with lawful reproductive health care services. Additionally, medical malpractice insurers may not deny coverage to or sue a health care provider because the provider offers or assists with lawful reproductive health care services.

The bill also funds grants to assist health care providers who offer or refer for abortion services and face legal issues relating to their provision of reproductive health care services with legal matters and improving security.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 2, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
- **Aug 2, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.