

HR 5040

Helping Seniors Afford Health Care Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 17, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Aug 18, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5040>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Aug 17, 2021
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Aug 17, 2021
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Sep 3, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 17, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 18, 2021
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 17, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 7585	Related bill	Jun 29, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 S 4486	Related bill	Jun 23, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Helping Seniors Afford Health Care Act

This bill alters eligibility standards and related processes for several programs that provide premium and cost-sharing assistance to low-income Medicare beneficiaries.

Among other things, the bill expands income eligibility for the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Program and the Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary Program to up to 135% and 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL), respectively, and provides an enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (i.e., federal matching rate) to state Medicaid programs for expenditures related to the expansion. The bill also repeals the Qualifying Individual Program (which currently provides premium assistance to beneficiaries with incomes between 120% and 135% of the FPL).

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 18, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Aug 17, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 17, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.
- **Aug 17, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.