

## S 57

### ACCESS Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jan 27, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jan 27, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/57>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]

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

### Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]	R · IA		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 27, 2021
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Apr 13, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 27, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 596	Related bill	<b>Feb 2, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Advancing Connectivity during the Coronavirus to Ensure Support for Seniors Act or the ACCESS Act**

This bill provides funding to increase access to telehealth services and virtual visits in skilled and other nursing facilities during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) emergency. The bill designates the funding as emergency spending, which is exempt from discretionary spending limits.

Specifically, the bill provides additional funding for FY2021, to remain available through FY2022, to the Telehealth Resource Center Program to address barriers to telehealth faced by skilled and other nursing facilities. The Office for the Advancement of Telehealth within the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy in the Health Resources and Services Administration manages this program.

In addition, the bill provides funding for FY2021, to remain available through one month after the emergency period ends, to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for grants to nursing facilities to support virtual visits for residents during the COVID-19 emergency. HHS must develop relevant guidance for these grants within 15 days. HHS must also coordinate with the Federal Communications Commission on these grants.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 27, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 27, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.