

HR 5937

Mental Health Workforce and Language Access Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Nov 9, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Nov 10, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5937>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]

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

Cosponsors (32 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Garcia, Sylvia R. [D-TX-29]	D · TX		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Nov 9, 2021
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Dec 14, 2021
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Dec 14, 2021
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Jan 28, 2022
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		Mar 7, 2022
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Mar 7, 2022
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Mar 7, 2022
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Mar 11, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 11, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 4677	Related bill	Jul 28, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
117 S 4486	Related bill	Jun 23, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Nov 9, 2021)

Mental Health Workforce and Language Access Act of 2021

This bill establishes within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) two demonstration programs to increase access to mental health services provided in languages other than English at federally qualified health centers (FQHCs). In carrying out the programs, HHS must give preference to FQHCs at which at least 20% of the patients are best served in a language other than English.

First, HHS must provide National Health Service Corps (NHSC) loan repayments to mental health care providers who agree to serve their period of obligated service in an FQHC. HHS may provide enhanced payments to those who serve in an FQHC with non-English language needs. (The NHSC is a scholarship and student loan repayment program for eligible health care providers who agree to work in areas with a shortage of primary care, dental care, and mental health care providers.)

Second, HHS must award grants to FQHCs for recruiting and retaining mental health care providers who are fluent in a language other than English.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 10, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Nov 9, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 9, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.