

HR 598

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID-19 and Beyond Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jan 28, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Feb 2, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/598>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]

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

Cosponsors (24 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41] | D · CA | | Jan 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5] | D · CT | | Feb 22, 2021 |
| Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13] | D · MI | | Feb 22, 2021 |
| Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6] | D · CA | | Mar 26, 2021 |
| Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8] | D · NJ | | Mar 26, 2021 |
| Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7] | D · NY | | Mar 26, 2021 |
| Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3] | D · AZ | | Apr 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2] | D · WI | | Apr 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7] | D · MA | | Apr 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8] | D · MD | | Apr 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Deutch, Theodore E. [D-FL-22] | D · FL | | Apr 15, 2021 |
| Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC | | Apr 26, 2021 |
| Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27] | D · CA | | Apr 26, 2021 |
| Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11] | D · CA | | May 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4] | D · IL | | May 28, 2021 |
| Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2] | D · MS | | Jun 8, 2021 |
| Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35] | D · TX | | Jun 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Newman, Marie [D-IL-3] | D · IL | | Jun 30, 2021 |
| Rep. Lamb, Conor [D-PA-17] | D · PA | | Jul 16, 2021 |
| Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7] | D · IL | | Aug 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5] | D · PA | | Aug 23, 2021 |
| Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43] | D · CA | | Nov 18, 2021 |
| Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40] | D · CA | | Feb 1, 2022 |
| Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7] | D · IN | | Apr 28, 2022 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred to | Feb 2, 2021 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred to | Jan 28, 2021 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|--------------|--|
| 117 S 315 | Related bill | Feb 12, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. |
| 117 S 317 | Related bill | Feb 12, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. |
| 117 HR 771 | Related bill | Feb 4, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |

Summary (as of Jan 28, 2021)

Quality Care for Nursing Home Residents and Workers During COVID-19 and Beyond Act

This bill modifies several requirements for Medicare skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and Medicaid nursing facilities (NFs) to address the public health emergency relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) and the overall standard and administration of care in such facilities.

Specifically, during the public health emergency, SNFs and NFs must comply with specified quality of care, worker safety, and transparency requirements, subject to civil penalties. Requirements include (1) testing residents and employees for COVID-19 weekly or before shifts, respectively, and reporting any lack of available testing kits on a daily basis; (2) providing at least two weeks of paid sick leave to each employee; and (3) reporting the number of COVID-19 cases and deaths, including demographic information, on a daily basis.

The bill also establishes general requirements for SNFs and NFs with respect to minimum staffing levels and protections for whistleblowers and residents, subject to civil penalties, as well as training requirements for nurses. It also requires specific consent procedures in relation to the administration of certain psychotropic drugs and prohibits the use of pre-dispute arbitration agreements in such facilities.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 2, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 28, 2021:** 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.
- **Jan 28, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.