

## S 610

Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Mar 4, 2021

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 117-71.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 117-71. (Dec 10, 2021)

**Law:** 117-71 (Enacted Dec 10, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/610>

### Sponsor

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**Name:** Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]

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

Cosponsors (29 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]	R · LA		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Mar 4, 2021
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Mar 11, 2021
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Mar 18, 2021
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		May 18, 2021
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 18, 2021
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		May 25, 2021
Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]	R · KS		May 25, 2021
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		May 26, 2021
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 8, 2021
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jun 15, 2021
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 24, 2021
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jul 20, 2021
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 29, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 8, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1667	Identical bill	<b>Mar 18, 2022:</b> Became Public Law No: 117-105.
117 HR 6143	Related bill	<b>Dec 8, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
117 S 3344	Related bill	<b>Dec 8, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
117 HRES 838	Procedurally related	<b>Dec 7, 2021:</b> Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

## Summary (as of Dec 10, 2021)

### Protecting Medicare and American Farmers from Sequester Cuts Act

This bill makes several budgetary, technical, and procedural changes, particularly in relation to Medicare and increasing the debt limit.

Specifically, the bill continues to exempt Medicare from sequestration until March 31, 2022. (Sequestration is a process of automatic, usually across-the-board spending reductions under which budgetary resources are permanently cancelled to enforce specific budget policy goals.)

The bill also establishes expedited Senate procedures for considering legislation to increase the debt limit. The procedures limit debate, waive points of order, and prohibit amendments. The procedures may only be used once and expire after January 16, 2022.

Additionally, the bill (1) temporarily extends other provisions under Medicare, including a payment increase under the physician fee schedule; and (2) requires any debits recorded for FY2022 on the statutory pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) scorecards to be deducted from the scorecards for 2022 and added to the scorecards for 2023.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Dec 10, 2021:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Dec 10, 2021:** Presented to President.
- **Dec 10, 2021:** Signed by President.
- **Dec 10, 2021:** Became Public Law No: 117-71.
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Considered by Senate (Message from the House considered). (consideration: CR S9053)
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Cloture on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 invoked in Senate by Yea-Nay Vote. 64 - 36. Record Vote Number: 490. (CR S9057)
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Motion by Senator Schumer to refer to Senate Committee on Finance the House message to accompany S. 610 with instructions to report back forthwith with the following amendment (SA 4873) fell when cloture invoked on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 in Senate.
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Motion by Senator Schumer to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 with an amendment (SA 4871) withdrawn in Senate by Unanimous Consent.
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Resolving differences -- Senate actions: Senate agreed to the House amendment to S. 610 by Yea-Nay Vote. 59 - 35. Record Vote Number: 491.(consideration: CR S9081)
- **Dec 9, 2021:** Senate agreed to the House amendment to S. 610 by Yea-Nay Vote. 59 - 35. Record Vote Number: 491. (consideration: CR S9081)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 838 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5314, S. 1605 and S. 610 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order. Rule makes in order for the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on certain legislative days.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Rule H. Res. 838 passed House.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 838. (consideration: CR H6920-6927, H6927-6933)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5314, S. 1605 and S. 610 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit. Measure will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order. Rule makes in order for the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on certain legislative days.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on S. 610.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on S. 610, the Chair put the question on passage of S. 610 and by voice vote, announced that the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Brady demanded the yeas and nays and the Chair postponed further proceedings on on S. 610 until a time to be announced.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7222-7223)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 222 - 212 (Roll no. 404).(text: CR H6929-6930)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 222 - 212 (Roll no. 404). (text: CR H6929-6930)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Message on House action received in Senate and at desk: House amendment to Senate bill.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Motion by Senator Schumer to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 made in Senate. (CR S8956)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Cloture motion on the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 presented in Senate.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Motion by Senator Schumer to concur in the House amendment to S. 610 with an amendment (SA 4871) made in Senate. (CR S8956)
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Motion by Senator Schumer to refer to Senate Committee on Finance the House message to accompany S. 610 with instructions to report back forthwith with the following amendment (SA 4873) made in Senate. (CR S8956)
- **Aug 10, 2021:** Received in the House.
- **Aug 10, 2021:** Held at the desk.
- **Aug 9, 2021:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S5985-5987; text: CR S5985-5986)

- Aug 6, 2021:** The committee substitute as amended agreed to by Unanimous Consent.
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.(text: CR S5986-5987)
  - **Aug 6, 2021:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (text: CR S5986-5987)
  - **Jun 8, 2021:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Reported by Senator Murray with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
  - **Jun 8, 2021:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 69.
  - **May 25, 2021:** Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
  - **Mar 4, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
  - **Mar 4, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.