

HR 6279

Opioid Treatment Access Act of 2022

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Dec 14, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. (Nov 1, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6279>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]

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

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Dec 14, 2021
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Jan 10, 2022
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Jan 10, 2022
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		May 11, 2022
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Sep 20, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 15, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 1, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 3629	Related bill	Feb 10, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Opioid Treatment Access Act of 2022

This bill expands access to substance use disorder treatment by modifying the regulation of opioid treatment programs and narcotic drugs used for treatment, including with respect to a patient's unsupervised use of such drugs.

Specifically, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must issue regulations to further increase patients' access to unsupervised use or handling of drugs for treatment. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) must study the effects of these revisions, and HHS must, as appropriate, promulgate additional regulations based on the study's findings.

SAMHSA must also study the impact of certain exemptions from certification requirements for opioid treatment programs that were granted as part of COVID-19 response efforts, including any additional costs or savings that resulted from the exemptions.

The bill also (1) allows specified types of health care providers to prescribe (subject to certain requirements) methadone that is dispensed through pharmacies for a patient's unsupervised use, and (2) provides statutory authority for a regulation that allows registered opioid treatment programs to operate mobile medication units without separately registering the unit.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 1, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.
- **Dec 15, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Dec 14, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 14, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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.