

HR 8481

Improving DATA in Public Health Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Jul 21, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (Jul 21, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/8481>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jul 21, 2022
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Jul 21, 2022
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Jul 21, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 21, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 3913	Related bill	Mar 24, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1775-1776)
117 S 3799	Related bill	Mar 15, 2022: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.

Improving Data Accessibility Through Advancements in Public Health Act or the Improving DATA in Public Health Act

This bill addresses the collection and reporting of public health data with a particular focus on electronic health information.

Specifically, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) must designate data and technology standards for public health data systems no later than two years after enactment of this act. These standards must, among other requirements, align with standards designated by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). In addition, the ONC must study matters concerning the use of standards for certain laboratory information.

Further, the CDC may require, subject to some limits, additional reporting of public health and health care data by health care providers, health departments, and other entities for public health surveillance. The CDC must establish a committee to advise on the implementation of this reporting.

Additionally, the bill addresses agreements regarding access to, exchange of, and use of public health data, including for public health preparedness and response activities. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must develop or update interagency agreements while the CDC and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response may develop and update agreements with health departments and other nonfederal entities.

The bill also requires HHS to award grants and other support for developing and disseminating best practices to collect electronic health information. Entities eligible for the awards include state, tribal, and local governments; health care providers; and nonprofits.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 21, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 21, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.