

HR 549

Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Social Welfare

Introduced: Jan 26, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Dec 17, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/549>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Garbarino, Andrew R. [R-NY-2]

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

Cosponsors (250 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Jan 26, 2023
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 21, 2023
Del. Radewagen, Aumua Amata Coleman [R-AS-At Large]	R · AS		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Auchincloss, Jake [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Castro, Joaquin [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-6]	D · MI		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-37]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Feenstra, Randy [R-IA-4]	R · IA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Frankel, Lois [D-FL-22]	D · FL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-8]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Golden, Jared F. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Kim, Andy [D-NJ-3]	D · NJ		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Leger Fernandez, Teresa [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Meuser, Daniel [R-PA-9]	R · PA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-1]	R · IA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3]	D · MN		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-25]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Salazar, Maria Elvira [R-FL-27]	R · FL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Scanlon, Mary Gay [D-PA-5]	D · PA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-7]	D · MI		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Stanton, Greg [D-AZ-4]	D · AZ		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-39]	D · CA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]	D · MD		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-25]	D · FL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Williams, Nikema [D-GA-5]	D · GA		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Feb 21, 2023
Rescom. González-Colón, Jenniffer [R-PR-At Large]	R · PR		Feb 21, 2023
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-21]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2]	D · MN		Mar 9, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. D'Esposito, Anthony [R-NY-4]	R · NY		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Finstad, Brad [R-MN-1]	R · MN		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Flood, Mike [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Himes, James A. [D-CT-4]	D · CT		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Houlahan, Chrissy [D-PA-6]	D · PA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Kildee, Daniel T. [D-MI-8]	D · MI		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Reschenthaler, Guy [R-PA-14]	R · PA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11]	D · NJ		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8]	R · MN		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Van Duyne, Beth [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Mar 9, 2023
Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Nickel, Wiley [D-NC-13]	D · NC		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Nunn, Zachary [R-IA-3]	R · IA		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-4]	D · CA		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Wexton, Jennifer [D-VA-10]	D · VA		Mar 27, 2023
Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1]	R · MI		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. LaLota, Nick [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Ruppertsberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Ryan, Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Apr 17, 2023
Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6]	R · WI		Apr 18, 2023
Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Apr 18, 2023
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Apr 25, 2023
Rep. Mfume, Kweisi [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Apr 25, 2023
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Apr 25, 2023
Rep. Williams, Brandon [R-NY-22]	R · NY		Apr 25, 2023
Rep. Brown, Shontel M. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		May 5, 2023
Rep. Landsman, Greg [D-OH-1]	D · OH		May 5, 2023
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		May 5, 2023
Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7]	D · VA		May 5, 2023
Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]	D · CA		May 5, 2023
Del. Plaskett, Stacey E. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		May 10, 2023
Rep. Langworthy, Nicholas A. [R-NY-23]	R · NY		May 10, 2023
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		May 10, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-14]	D · CA		May 10, 2023
Rep. De La Cruz, Monica [R-TX-15]	R · TX		May 15, 2023
Rep. Lawler, Michael [R-NY-17]	R · NY		May 15, 2023
Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]	D · MD		May 15, 2023
Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]	D · CO		May 17, 2023
Rep. McClellan, Jennifer L. [D-VA-4]	D · VA		May 17, 2023
Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15]	D · CA		May 17, 2023
Rep. Vargas, Juan [D-CA-52]	D · CA		May 17, 2023
Rep. Bowman, Jamaal [D-NY-16]	D · NY		May 24, 2023
Rep. Cherfilus-McCormick, Sheila [D-FL-20]	D · FL		May 24, 2023
Rep. Crockett, Jasmine [D-TX-30]	D · TX		May 24, 2023
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		May 24, 2023
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		May 24, 2023
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		May 24, 2023
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		May 24, 2023
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		May 31, 2023
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-41]	R · CA		May 31, 2023
Rep. Caraveo, Yadira [D-CO-8]	D · CO		May 31, 2023
Rep. Cuellar, Henry [D-TX-28]	D · TX		May 31, 2023
Rep. Frost, Maxwell [D-FL-10]	D · FL		May 31, 2023
Rep. Torres, Ritchie [D-NY-15]	D · NY		May 31, 2023
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Kamlager-Dove, Sydney [D-CA-37]	D · CA		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. McBath, Lucy [D-GA-7]	D · GA		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]	D · NJ		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Pettersen, Brittany [D-CO-7]	D · CO		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Steube, W. Gregory [R-FL-17]	R · FL		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		Jun 7, 2023
Rep. Casar, Greg [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Kim, Young [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Pelosi, Nancy [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Wild, Susan [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Jun 15, 2023
Rep. Rutherford, John H. [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]	D · IL		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Jun 22, 2023
Rep. Bice, Stephanie I. [R-OK-5]	R · OK		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Jul 11, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Mace, Nancy [R-SC-1]	R · SC		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-50]	D · CA		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Jul 11, 2023
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Graves, Garret [R-LA-6]	R · LA		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Jeff [D-NC-14]	D · NC		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Lucas, Frank D. [R-OK-3]	R · OK		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]	R · OH		Jul 14, 2023
Rep. Huizenga, Bill [R-MI-4]	R · MI		Jul 26, 2023
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Jul 26, 2023
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-10]	D · CA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Molinaro, Marcus J. [R-NY-19]	R · NY		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-15]	R · PA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Adams, Alma S. [D-NC-12]	D · NC		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Balint, Becca [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Gallego, Ruben [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Mrvan, Frank J. [D-IN-1]	D · IN		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Owens, Burgess [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Sykes, Emilia Strong [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Sep 12, 2023
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 29, 2023
Rep. Cline, Ben [R-VA-6]	R · VA		Sep 29, 2023
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Sep 29, 2023
Rep. Luetkemeyer, Blaine [R-MO-3]	R · MO		Sep 29, 2023
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Sep 29, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Aguilar, Pete [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-2]	D · PA		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Ciscomani, Juan [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-34]	D · TX		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Perez, Marie Gluesenkamp [D-WA-3]	D · WA		Oct 12, 2023
Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Hinson, Ashley [R-IA-2]	R · IA		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11]	R · NY		Oct 20, 2023
Rep. Chavez-DeRemer, Lori [R-OR-5]	R · OR		Nov 3, 2023
Rep. Kiggans, Jennifer A [R-VA-2]	R · VA		Nov 3, 2023
Rep. Magaziner, Seth [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Nov 3, 2023
Rep. Peltola, Mary Sattler [D-AK-At Large]	D · AK		Dec 12, 2023
Rep. Gonzales, Tony [R-TX-23]	R · TX		Jan 29, 2024
Rep. Scholten, Hillary J. [D-MI-3]	D · MI		Jan 29, 2024
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Feb 29, 2024
Rep. Garcia, Robert [D-CA-42]	D · CA		Mar 19, 2024
Rep. McCormick, Richard [R-GA-6]	R · GA		Mar 19, 2024
Rep. Amo, Gabe [D-RI-1]	D · RI		May 7, 2024
Rep. Goldman, Daniel S. [D-NY-10]	D · NY		May 7, 2024
Rep. Moskowitz, Jared [D-FL-23]	D · FL		May 7, 2024
Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]	D · IL		May 8, 2024
Rep. Kean, Thomas H. [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		May 8, 2024
Rep. Miller, Mary E. [R-IL-15]	R · IL		May 8, 2024
Rep. Kelly, Mike [R-PA-16]	R · PA		May 15, 2024
Rep. Deluzio, Christopher R. [D-PA-17]	D · PA		May 17, 2024
Rep. Kiley, Kevin [R-CA-3]	R · CA		May 17, 2024
Rep. Ivey, Glenn [D-MD-4]	D · MD		May 21, 2024
Rep. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		May 21, 2024
Rep. Van Orden, Derrick [R-WI-3]	R · WI		May 28, 2024
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Jul 9, 2024
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-12]	D · CA		Jul 24, 2024
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Jul 25, 2024
Rep. Edwards, Chuck [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Jul 30, 2024
Rep. Horsford, Steven [D-NV-4]	D · NV		Aug 2, 2024
Rep. Manning, Kathy E. [D-NC-6]	D · NC		Aug 2, 2024
Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Aug 2, 2024
Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3]	D · KS		Aug 6, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 17, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Social Welfare

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 663	Identical bill	Mar 6, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Summary (as of Jan 26, 2023)

Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act

This bill expedites payment of Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits and eligibility for Medicare coverage for those with metastatic breast cancer (i.e., breast cancer that has spread to other sites in the body).

Specifically, the bill eliminates the 5-month waiting period for SSDI benefits and the subsequent 24-month waiting period for Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer. Under current law, individuals generally must wait 5 months after the onset of disability to begin receiving SSDI benefits and an additional 24 months to become eligible for Medicare.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 17, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Social Security.
- **Dec 17, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 26, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 26, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.