

HR 5526

Seniors' Access to Critical Medications Act of 2024

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Sep 18, 2023

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sep 24, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5526>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Harshbarger, Diana [R-TN-1]

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

Cosponsors (69 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12]	R · OH		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Fleischmann, Charles J. "Chuck" [R-TN-3]	R · TN		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-1]	R · IA		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-25]	D · FL		Sep 18, 2023
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Sep 21, 2023
Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Sep 26, 2023
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Sep 28, 2023
Rep. LaLota, Nick [R-NY-1]	R · NY		Oct 2, 2023
Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-25]	D · CA		Oct 2, 2023
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Oct 6, 2023
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		Oct 11, 2023
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Oct 16, 2023
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Oct 17, 2023
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Oct 19, 2023
Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]	R · FL		Oct 20, 2023
Rep. Crenshaw, Dan [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Oct 20, 2023
Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13]	R · PA		Oct 24, 2023
Rep. Perez, Marie Gluesenkamp [D-WA-3]	D · WA		Oct 25, 2023
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		Oct 25, 2023
Rep. Van Drew, Jefferson [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Oct 26, 2023
Rep. Ferguson, A. Drew, IV [R-GA-3]	R · GA		Oct 30, 2023
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Oct 30, 2023
Rep. Pfluger, August [R-TX-11]	R · TX		Oct 30, 2023
Rep. LaHood, Darin [R-IL-16]	R · IL		Nov 3, 2023
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Nov 7, 2023
Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8]	R · IN		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Burgess, Michael C. [R-TX-26]	R · TX		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Crow, Jason [D-CO-6]	D · CO		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2]	R · FL		Nov 8, 2023
Rep. Golden, Jared F. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Miller, Carol D. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Rutherford, John H. [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Nov 13, 2023
Rep. Mann, Tracey [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Nov 15, 2023
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-23]	R · CA		Nov 15, 2023
Rep. Bacon, Don [R-NE-2]	R · NE		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. DesJarlais, Scott [R-TN-4]	R · TN		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Kustoff, David [R-TN-8]	R · TN		Nov 28, 2023

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Nehls, Troy E. [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7]	D · VA		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Caraveo, Yadira [D-CO-8]	D · CO		Dec 4, 2023
Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]	D · NJ		Dec 4, 2023
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Dec 11, 2023
Rep. Jackson, Jeff [D-NC-14]	D · NC		Dec 19, 2023
Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]	D · IL		Dec 19, 2023
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		Jan 9, 2024
Rep. Langworthy, Nicholas A. [R-NY-23]	R · NY		Jan 9, 2024
Rep. Murphy, Gregory F. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Jan 17, 2024
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Jan 18, 2024
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		Jan 18, 2024
Rep. D'Esposito, Anthony [R-NY-4]	R · NY		Jan 22, 2024
Rep. Williams, Brandon [R-NY-22]	R · NY		Jan 25, 2024
Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7]	R · NC		Jan 29, 2024
Rep. Green, Mark E. [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Feb 23, 2024
Rep. Malliotakis, Nicole [R-NY-11]	R · NY		Mar 21, 2024
Rep. Weber, Randy K. [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Apr 11, 2024
Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		Apr 26, 2024
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		May 14, 2024
Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]	D · TX		May 15, 2024
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		May 22, 2024
Rep. Allred, Colin Z. [D-TX-32]	D · TX		May 23, 2024
Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31]	R · TX		Jun 11, 2024
Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Jul 18, 2024
Rep. Moran, Nathaniel [R-TX-1]	R · TX		Jul 30, 2024
Rep. Estes, Ron [R-KS-4]	R · KS		Sep 6, 2024
Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3]	D · MN		Sep 16, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	Mar 12, 2024
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 24, 2024
Ways and Means Committee	House	Discharged From	Sep 19, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 3458	Identical bill	Dec 11, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Seniors' Access to Critical Medications Act of 2024

This bill temporarily allows physicians to dispense outpatient prescription drugs and related supplies under the Medicare prescription drug benefit to patients via mail or to their caregivers without violating certain prohibitions under the Stark law (i.e., the Physician Self-Referral Law), if certain conditions are met. It also allows for coverage of certain external infusion pumps and associated home infusion drugs under Medicare.

Current law requires physicians to dispense outpatient prescription drugs and related supplies to patients in their office buildings in order to qualify for an exception (the in-office ancillary services exception) under the Stark law. The bill specifies that, from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2029, physicians may dispense outpatient prescription drugs and related supplies to their patients via mail, and individuals or their family members or caregivers may pick up such items at the physician's office building, if the individual (1) had a face-to-face visit with the prescriber in the prior year, not including telehealth visits; (2) the prescriber furnished other items or services to the individual in the prior year; and (3) the prescriber has an ongoing professional relationship with the individual.

In addition, the bill specifies that external infusion pumps and associated home infusion drugs may be covered under Medicare even if they don't meet certain regulatory requirements, if these items are provided in accordance with the bill's specified criteria, including that the drug is administered under the supervision of a qualified home infusion therapy supplier.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 24, 2024:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
- **Sep 23, 2024:** Mr. Bucshon moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 23, 2024:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5587-5588)
- **Sep 23, 2024:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 5526.
- **Sep 23, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5587)
- **Sep 23, 2024:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5587)
- **Sep 23, 2024:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 23, 2024:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 19, 2024:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 118-691, Part I.
- **Sep 19, 2024:** Committee on Ways and Means discharged.
- **Sep 19, 2024:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 585.
- **Jun 12, 2024:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Jun 12, 2024:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 41 - 0.
- **Mar 12, 2024:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Mar 12, 2024:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by the Yeas and Nays: 19 - 6.
- **Sep 22, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 18, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 18, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.