

## S 838

### Improving Access to Mental Health Act of 2023

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Mar 16, 2023

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Mar 16, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/838>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]

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

### Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 30, 2023
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		May 31, 2023
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 21, 2023
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [I-AZ]	I · AZ		Jul 26, 2023
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Sep 6, 2023
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Oct 19, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 25, 2023
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Nov 29, 2023
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Jul 9, 2024
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Jul 9, 2024
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Sep 11, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 1638	Identical bill	Dec 17, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Improving Access to Mental Health Act of 2023**

This bill increases the Medicare reimbursement rate for clinical social worker services. The bill excludes clinical social worker services from the prospective payment system in which predetermined amounts form the basis for payment under Medicare.

Additionally, the bill alters the definition of *clinical social worker services* as it relates to Medicare. Under current law, such services (1) include services performed for the diagnosis and treatment of mental illnesses, and (2) exclude services furnished to an inpatient of a skilled nursing facility as a condition of the facility's participation in the Medicare program. The bill repeals these provisions and instead specifies that such services include certain types of health behavior assessment and intervention.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 16, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.