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ORPHAN Cures Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 22, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S3119)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S3119) (May 22, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/1862>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

Party: Republican • **State:** WY • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 22, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 22, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 946	Related bill	Feb 6, 2025: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H535-536)

Optimizing Research Progress Hope And New Cures Act or the ORPHAN Cures Act

This bill modifies certain provisions under the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program with respect to orphan drugs.

The Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to negotiate the prices of certain prescription drugs under Medicare beginning in 2026. Among other requirements, drugs must have had market approval for at least 7 years (for drug products) or 11 years (for biologics) to qualify for negotiation. The program does not apply to orphan drugs that are approved to treat only one rare disease or condition.

The bill modifies these provisions so as to exclude any period in which a drug was an orphan drug from market approval calculations. It also excludes orphan drugs that are approved to treat more than one rare disease or condition from the program.

