

S 3492

Essential Caregivers Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Dec 16, 2025

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Dec 16, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/3492>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX] | R · TX | | Dec 16, 2025 |
| Sen. Alsobrooks, Angela D. [D-MD] | D · MD | | Jan 6, 2026 |
| Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT] | R · MT | | Jan 6, 2026 |
| Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY] | D · NY | | Jan 6, 2026 |
| Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC] | R · NC | | Jan 6, 2026 |
| Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND] | R · ND | | Jan 8, 2026 |
| Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI] | D · RI | | Jan 8, 2026 |
| Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR] | R · AR | | Jan 27, 2026 |
| Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA] | D · VA | | Jan 27, 2026 |
| Sen. Britt, Katie Boyd [R-AL] | R · AL | | Feb 3, 2026 |
| Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ] | D · AZ | | Feb 3, 2026 |
| Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT] | D · CT | | Mar 4, 2026 |
| Sen. Schmitt, Eric [R-MO] | R · MO | | Mar 4, 2026 |
| Sen. Sheehy, Tim [R-MT] | R · MT | | Mar 4, 2026 |
| Sen. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI] | D · MI | | Mar 4, 2026 |
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME] | R · ME | | Mar 9, 2026 |
| Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI] | D · RI | | Mar 9, 2026 |
| Sen. Moody, Ashley [R-FL] | R · FL | | Apr 20, 2026 |
| Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA] | D · MA | | Apr 20, 2026 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate | Referred To | Dec 16, 2025 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|----------------|---|
| 119 HR 6766 | Identical bill | Dec 16, 2025: 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. |

Summary (as of Dec 16, 2025)

Essential Caregivers Act of 2025

This bill prohibits certain health care facilities from limiting the access of essential caregivers to residents of those facilities, including during designated emergency periods.

Specifically, the bill generally prohibits Medicare skilled nursing facilities, Medicaid nursing facilities, Medicaid intermediate care facilities, and associated inpatient rehabilitation facilities from restricting the access of essential caregivers to residents of the facilities, including during emergency periods in which visitation rights are otherwise restricted. During emergency periods, facilities may restrict access for an initial period of up to seven days and for one additional maximum seven-day period (if the additional period is approved by the state health department). Facilities may restrict access for a total of 7 days (or 14 days with the approval of the state health department) during an emergency period.

Essential caregivers must agree to comply with any safety protocols set by the facility, which may be no more stringent for caregivers compared to those for staff. Caregivers who fail to comply with these requirements may be denied access, subject to an appeals process.

Dec 16, 2025: Introduced in Senate

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