S 699

Purchased and Referred Care Improvement Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)
Chamber: Senate
Policy Area: Native Americans
Introduced: Feb 24, 2025
Current Status: Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held.
Latest Action: Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held. (Feb 4, 2026)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/699

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]
Party: Republican • **State:** SD • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 24, 2025
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Feb 24, 2025
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Feb 24, 2025
Sen. Hoeven, John [R-ND]	R · ND		Mar 6, 2025
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Apr 28, 2026

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 24, 2025
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Feb 4, 2026

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 24, 2025)

Purchased and Referred Care Improvement Act of 2025

This bill specifies that the Indian Health Service (IHS) must reimburse patients for their out-of-pocket costs for authorized purchased/referred care services within 30 days. (The IHS provides medical and dental services directly to American Indian and Alaska Native patients whenever possible. However, when services are not available, IHS beneficiaries may be referred to private providers. This is called purchased/referred care.)

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish and implement procedures to allow a patient who paid out of pocket for purchased/referred care services authorized by the IHS to be reimbursed by the IHS for that payment no later than 30 days after the patient submits required documentation.

Additionally, the bill requires HHS to update applicable provisions of and exhibits to the Indian Health Manual, contracts with providers, and other relevant documents and administrative authorities to incorporate the provisions of the bill.

The bill also replaces statutory references to *contract health service* with *purchased/referred care*.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 4, 2026:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Hearings held.
- **Feb 24, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 24, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com