

HR 946

ORPHAN Cures Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Feb 4, 2025

Current Status: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H535-536)

Latest Action: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H535-536) (Feb 6, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/946>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13]

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

Cosponsors (18 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12] | R · FL | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1] | D · NC | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5] | D · NJ | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Hern, Kevin [R-OK-1] | R · OK | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-9] | R · NC | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9] | D · MA | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-1] | R · IA | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-50] | D · CA | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13] | D · MI | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Bynum, Janelle [D-OR-5] | D · OR | | Apr 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Kean, Thomas H. [R-NJ-7] | R · NJ | | Apr 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Smucker, Lloyd [R-PA-11] | R · PA | | Apr 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1] | D · NV | | Apr 7, 2025 |
| Rep. Dunn, Neal P. [R-FL-2] | R · FL | | May 20, 2025 |
| Rep. Salinas, Andrea [D-OR-6] | D · OR | | May 20, 2025 |
| Rep. Crenshaw, Dan [R-TX-2] | R · TX | | Jun 12, 2025 |
| Rep. Gray, Adam [D-CA-13] | D · CA | | Jun 12, 2025 |
| Rep. Bresnahan, Robert P. [R-PA-8] | R · PA | | Sep 30, 2025 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 4, 2025 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|--------------|--|
| 119 S 1862 | Related bill | May 22, 2025: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S3119) |

Summary (as of Feb 4, 2025)

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.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 6, 2025:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H535-536)
- **Feb 4, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 4, 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.

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