

Federal Legislative Efforts: Medicare Part D

As of 6/10/2006

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H.R.3861

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide extended and additional protection to Medicare beneficiaries who enroll for the Medicare prescription drug benefit during 2006.

Sponsor: [Rep Stark, Fortney Pete](#) [CA-13] (introduced 9/22/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (173)

Related Bills: [S.1841](#)

Latest Major Action: 10/7/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.2810

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate months in 2006 from the calculation of any late enrollment penalty under the Medicare part D prescription drug program and to provide for additional funding for State health insurance counseling program and area agencies on aging, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Grassley, Chuck](#) [IA] (introduced 5/16/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (43)

Related Bills: [H.R.5399](#), [S.2811](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/17/2006 Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 434.

S.2811

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the annual, coordinated election period under the Medicare part D prescription drug program through all of 2006 and to provide for a refund of excess premiums paid during 2006, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Stabenow, Debbie](#) [MI] (introduced 5/16/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

Related Bills: [H.R.5387](#), [H.R.5399](#), [S.2810](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/16/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.5193

Title: To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for continuity of Medicare prescription drug coverage for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, for Medicare prescription drug coverage of benzodiazepines and off-label uses of certain prescription drugs and biological products, for optional Medicaid coverage of Medicare prescription drug cost-sharing for full-benefit dual eligible individuals, for authorization to the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain determinations denying Medicare prescription drug coverage, and for holding pharmacies harmless for certain costs incurred during implementation of Medicare part D.

Sponsor: [Rep Wilson, Heather](#) [NM-1] (introduced 4/25/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

Related Bills: [H.R.3151](#), [H.R.4937](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/15/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.2759

Title: A bill to provide for additional outreach and education related to the Medicare program and to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a special enrollment period for individuals who qualify for an income-related subsidy under the Medicare prescription drug program.

Sponsor: [Sen Smith, Gordon H.](#) [OR] (introduced 5/8/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Latest Major Action: 5/8/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.2238

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to assure uninterrupted access to necessary medicines under the Medicare prescription drug program.

Sponsor: [Sen Bayh, Evan](#) [IN] (introduced 2/1/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Related Bills: [H.R.4685](#)

Latest Major Action: 2/1/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.4685

Title: To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to assure uninterrupted access to necessary medicines under the Medicare prescription drug program.

Sponsor: [Rep Dingell, John D.](#) [MI-15] (introduced 2/1/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (56)

Related Bills: [S.2238](#)

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.3637

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent a decrease in Social Security benefits resulting from Medicare part D premiums increases.

Sponsor: [Rep Thompson, Mike](#) [CA-1] (introduced 7/29/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (1)

Related Bills: [H.R.3954](#)

Latest Major Action: 8/5/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.5297

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend by one year the initial enrollment period for Medicare prescription drug benefits and for Medicare Advantage plans, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs, and to express the sense of Congress that the Secretary should conduct activities to improve outreach and educational efforts with respect to such benefits.

Sponsor: [Rep Davis, Jo Ann](#) [VA-1] (introduced 5/4/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

Related Bills: [H.R.4792](#), [S.2487](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/15/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Chairman .

H.R.4792

Title: To fix the Medicare Part D prescription drug program by requiring the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate fair prices for prescription drugs on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries, to further reduce drug costs to consumers by allowing the importation of prescription drugs under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, to provide seniors with adequate time to consider their options under Medicare part D by extending the 2006 Medicare prescription drug enrollment period through December 31, 2006, without penalty, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Larsen, Rick](#) [WA-2] (introduced 2/16/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Related Bills: [H.R.328](#), [H.R.5173](#), [H.R.5297](#)

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.1144

Title: To continue State coverage of Medicaid prescription drug coverage to Medicare dual eligible beneficiaries for 6 months while still allowing the Medicare part D benefit to be implemented as scheduled.

Sponsor: [Rep Allen, Thomas H.](#) [ME-1] (introduced 3/8/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (18)

Related Bills: [S.566](#)

Latest Major Action: 3/15/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.1239

Title: A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to permit the Indian Health Service, an Indian tribe, a tribal organization, or an urban Indian organization to pay the monthly part D premium of eligible medicare beneficiaries.

Sponsor: [Sen McCain, John](#) [AZ] (introduced 6/14/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Latest Major Action: 6/29/2005 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.

S.2665

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to simplify and improve the Medicare prescription drug program.

Sponsor: [Sen Baucus, Max](#) [MT] (introduced 4/27/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (4)

Related Bills: [H.R.5102](#), [H.R.5116](#), [H.R.5263](#), [S.2255](#)

Latest Major Action: 4/27/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.2664

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to pharmacies under part D.

Sponsor: [Sen Baucus, Max](#) [MT] (introduced 4/27/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (2)

Related Bills: [H.R.5182](#), [H.R.5307](#), [S.2563](#), [S.2723](#)

Latest Major Action: 4/27/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.4697

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to replace the Medicare prescription drug benefit adopted by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 with a revised and simplified prescription benefit program for all Medicare beneficiaries.

Sponsor: [Rep Sanders, Bernard](#) [VT] (introduced 2/1/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (19)

Latest Major Action: 2/17/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.1798

Title: A bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit outbound call telemarketing to individuals eligible to receive benefits under title XVIII of such Act.

Sponsor: [Sen Corzine, Jon S.](#) [NJ] (introduced 9/29/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (7)

Latest Major Action: 9/29/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.345

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the medicare program.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 2/10/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Related Bills: [H.R.752](#), [S.873](#)

Latest Major Action: 2/10/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.873

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the medicare program.

Sponsor: [Sen Durbin, Richard](#) [IL] (introduced 4/21/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

Related Bills: [H.R.752](#), [S.345](#)

Latest Major Action: 4/22/2005 Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 90.

H.R.752

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare Program.

Sponsor: [Rep Berry, Marion](#) [AR-1] (introduced 2/10/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (121)

Related Bills: [S.345](#), [S.873](#)

Latest Major Action: 2/25/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.2723

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the sponsor of a prescription drug plan or an organization offering an MA-PD plan to promptly pay claims submitted under part D, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sen Lautenberg, Frank R.](#) [NJ] (introduced 5/4/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Related Bills: [H.R.5182](#), [H.R.5307](#), [S.2563](#), [S.2664](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/4/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.5307

Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the sponsor of a prescription drug plan or an organization offering an MA-PD plan to promptly pay claims submitted under part D, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Pallone, Frank, Jr.](#) [NJ-6] (introduced 5/4/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (None)

Related Bills: [H.R.5182](#), [S.2563](#), [S.2664](#), [S.2723](#)

Latest Major Action: 5/15/2006 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Chairman .

S.2342

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program.

Sponsor: [Sen Stabenow, Debbie](#) [MI] (introduced 3/1/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (7)

Latest Major Action: 3/1/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.4395

Title: To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for an improved voluntary Medicare prescription drug benefit, to provide greater access to affordable pharmaceuticals, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Rep Conyers, John, Jr.](#) [MI-14] (introduced 11/18/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Latest Major Action: 12/16/2005 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

S.1356

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide incentives for the provision of high quality care under the medicare program.

Sponsor: [Sen Grassley, Chuck](#) [IA] (introduced 6/30/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Latest Major Action: 6/30/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.222

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to stabilize the amount of the medicare

part B premium.

Sponsor: [Sen Stabenow, Debbie](#) [MI] (introduced 1/31/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (6)

Related Bills: [H.R.201](#), [S.1900](#), [S.2687](#)

Latest Major Action: 1/31/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Keep the Promise of Medicare Act of 2005 - Expresses the sense of the Senate that Congress should enact legislation to protect Medicare beneficiaries from dramatic increases in the Medicare part B premium.

Amends part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance) of title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to cap the Medicare part B premium for each month in 2005 at the same rate for each month in 2004, adjusted for inflation.

S.1335

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to appeals before administrative law judges under the medicare program.

Sponsor: [Sen Dodd, Christopher J.](#) [CT] (introduced 6/29/2005) [Cosponsors](#) (3)

Latest Major Action: 6/29/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Senators Christopher Dodd, John Kerry, Edward Kennedy and Jeff Bingaman introduced the [Justice for Medicare Beneficiaries Act of 2005 \(S. 1335\)](#), a bill to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries who are denied health care benefits can appeal these denials in a meaningful way. By amending a mandated change in the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA), this Act would help ensure that Medicare beneficiaries again have access to timely, impartial, and in-person hearings before Administrative Law Judges (ALJs). With the changes that took place last July, an ALJ hearing no longer guarantees these three qualities. This article provides some background to the current changes in ALJ hearings, a review of the proposed legislation S. 1335, and encouragement to promote its passage.

S.2409

Title: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce cost-sharing under part D of such title for certain non-institutionalized full-benefit dual eligible individuals.

Sponsor: [Sen Smith, Gordon H.](#) [OR] (introduced 3/14/2006) [Cosponsors](#) (5)

Related Bills: [S.2234](#)

Latest Major Action: 3/14/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.