

Support The Cure Hepatitis C Act of 2025 (S. 1941)

Co-sponsors Senators Bill Cassidy (R-LA) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). The House has not introduced the companion bill yet.



Why This Bill Matters

- The Cure Hepatitis C Act of 2025 establishes a national strategy to eliminate hepatitis C and close persistent care gaps.
- Hepatitis C is curable, but over 2 million people in the US still live with the disease, many without access to testing or treatment.
- This bill presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to save lives, reduce healthcare costs, and achieve health equity.

What the Bill Does

- **Expands Access to Treatment:** Establishes a federal program to provide hepatitis C medications free of charge to people on Medicaid (in participating states), the uninsured, incarcerated individuals, and those receiving care from the Indian Health Service.
- **Uses a Subscription Model:** Authorizes HHS to negotiate fixed-cost, bulk-purchase agreements with drug manufacturers, maximizing cost-effectiveness and supply.
- **Invests in Communities:** Provides grants to states, local health departments, community health centers, opioid treatment programs, and correctional facilities to expand screening, treatment, outreach, and care coordination.
- **Improves Public Health Infrastructure:** Funds provider training, technical assistance, point-of-care testing, and a national public awareness campaign to reduce stigma and boost engagement.
- **Expands access for underserved populations:** Focuses resources on communities with higher hepatitis C rates and barriers to care, including people who inject drugs, people of color, and individuals involved in the criminal legal system.
- **Supports Seniors:** Starting in 2027 (or 2028 if needed), Medicare will eliminate cost-sharing for hepatitis C treatment, helping older adults afford a cure.

Why It's a Smart Investment

- The bill essentially pays for itself – the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that a policy increasing hepatitis C treatment could save the federal government approximately \$7 billion over 10 years
- Hepatitis C drugs cure over 95% of infections, usually with just 8–12 weeks of treatment.
- Curing hepatitis C prevents liver failure, cancer, and costly hospitalizations.
- The bill saves money in Medicaid, Medicare, and correctional healthcare while improving population health.