



S. 2932 – Poison Center Support, Enhancement, and Awareness Act of 2008

FLOOR SITUATION

S. 2932 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) on April 29, 2008, and was passed by the Senate by unanimous consent on September 23, 2008.

*Note: Similar legislation, H.R. 5669, was introduced by Representative Edolphus Towns (D-NY) on April 1, 2008, and passed by the House on June 4, 2008, by a vote of 405-10.

S. 2932 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 25, 2008

SUMMARY

S. 2932 reauthorizes the Poison Control Program, administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The bill additionally authorizes the following appropriations:

- \$2 million for fiscal year 2009 as well as \$700,000 per year for each of the fiscal years 2010-2014 for the establishment and maintenance of a nationwide toll free poison control telephone number;
- authorizes to be appropriated such sums as necessary for the fiscal year 2009, as well as \$800,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010-2014 to expand the national poison control media campaign and quantitatively evaluate the impact of the nationwide media campaign.
- \$27.5 million per year for fiscal year 2009 as well as \$28.6 million per year for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 for the Poison Control Center grant program. This program establishes best practices for poison prevention and outreach, develops and implements standard patient management guidelines for common toxic exposures as well as supports and expands the toxicologic expertise within poison centers.

BACKGROUND

Poison Control Centers were initially codified into law in 2000 (P.L. 106-74) and were most recently authorized by the Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness Act, Amendments of 2003 (P.L. 108-194).

Poison Control Centers provide treatment advice and educational services as well as collect poisoning data to detect instances of poisoning outbreaks. The HRSA Poison Control Program provides grants to certified Poison Control Centers in the U.S. and programs to increase poison education, prevention and treatment. The Poison Control Program also maintains a website and national toll-free number which connects callers with regional Poison Control Centers.

In the United States, poisoning is the second most common form of unintentional death. According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers, older adults are more likely than others to die from poisonings. These adults account for five percent of possible poisonings but for 16 percent of fatalities.

[HRSA Poison Control website](#)

COST

The Congressional Budget Office has not issued a cost estimate for S. 2932 at the time of publication.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at 6-2302.



LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE | CHAIRMAN ADAM PUTNAM

1420 LONGWORTH HOB, WASHINGTON, DC 20515

www.GOP.gov

PHONE 202.225.5107

FAX 202.226.0154