

Our Message to Congress:
Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (ELSA)
S.1677/H.R.3277

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LEAD - ELSA Coalition
April 29, 2026





The Abbott family's journey—particularly Aidan's story at age 11—inspired this bipartisan, patient-led initiative. Aidan had the honor of naming this life-changing legislation.

One voice can make a difference.
Your voice can change history!

Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (ELSA)

Children born with congenital anomalies that affect the eyes, ears, teeth, mouth, or jaw are routinely denied coverage of medically necessary services by private insurers, leading to secondary health issues and leaving families without access to care.

ELSA addresses health insurance coverage denials and delays and ensures that children suffering from congenital craniofacial anomalies (birth defects) get the treatment they need and deserve.

- Ensures that all group and individual health plans cover outpatient and inpatient items and services related to the diagnosis and treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect that primarily impacts the appearance or function of the eyes, ears, teeth, mouth, or jaw.
- Places medical necessity determination in the hands of the provider.
- Closes a loophole and ensures families receive the coverages they pay for and deserve for the duration of their treatment plan.
- Ensures children born with congenital anomalies have access to the highest clinical standard of care and qualified providers, enabling them to see, hear, chew, swallow and speak - basic rights we take for granted and all deserve.

Status ELSA - 119th Congress

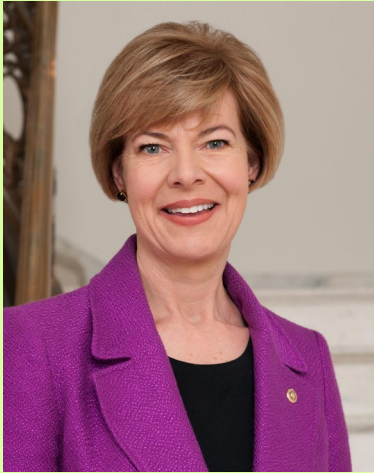
- **119th Congress Began:** January 3, 2025

- **ELSA Bicameral Reintroduction in 119th Congress:** May 8, 2025
 - ★ **U.S. House of Representatives:** 154/435 Members (104 Democratic - 50 Republican)
 - ★ **U.S. Senate:** 48/100 Members (33 Democratic - 14 Republican - 1 Independent)

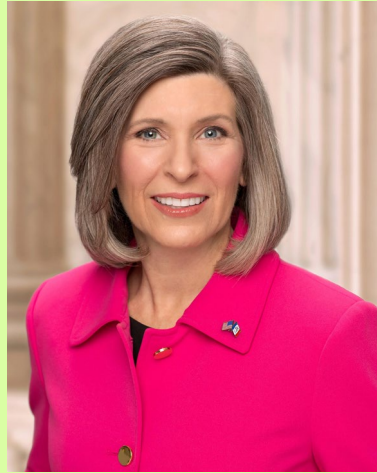
- **U.S. Senate H.E.L.P. Committee - Member Day:** March, 19, 2026

- **Legislative Process - Until January 2, 2027**
 - Committees of Jurisdiction - Mark-up in both House & Senate
 - Vehicle to move ELSA forward - Year End Packages
 - Reach Supermajority in House - Activate Consensus Calendar (Previous House Passage - 117th)
 - Bill Leads making ELSA a priority - Retiring Leads

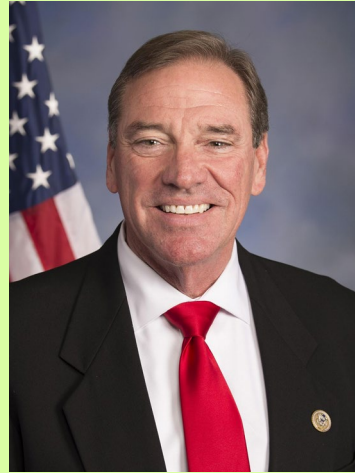
- **Short Time Frame - 120th Congress:** January 3, 2027
 - Summer Recess
 - Upcoming Elections
 - Unexpected hurdles - No bipartisan markups, hearings or consensus on packages
 - Pass one chamber and no movement in other chamber



**Senator Tammy Baldwin
(D-WI)**



**Senator Joni Ernst
(R-IA)**



**Representative Neal Dunn
(R-FL-02)**



**Representative Kim Schrier
(D-WA-08)**

Ask or thank for becoming a co-sponsor of the bicameral, bipartisan ***Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act (S.1677/H.R.3277)***

ELSA Coalition

The advocacy initiative to get ELSA passed is led by the ELSA Coalition, which includes:

- Patient Advocate Leaders
- Professional Organizations
- Patient Organizations
- Researchers, Providers, and Medical Students

ELSA is broadly supported by 80+ professional and patient organizations - This initiative is a team effort!

Grassroots effort from the start - Patients and providers have joined with one unified message:

Support and Cosponsor the *Ensuring Lasting Smiles Act*



QUESTIONS:

Team ELSA,
Thank you for your advocacy!

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