

Former Finance Chair Predicts ACA Credit Action By End of Year

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A former senator who helped craft the original Affordable Care Act legislation said there are active discussions about addressing the healthcare premium tax credits before the end of the year.

Max Baucus, a Democratic senator from Montana for 35 years, told Bloomberg Government Wednesday that he has spoken to Senate Finance Committee Chair [Mike Crapo](#) (Idaho) and top Democrat [Ron Wyden](#) (Ore.) about reviving the credits.

“There’s a decent chance that the tax credit will be addressed this year,” he said at a lobbying event in Washington, and added that both Crapo’s and Wyden’s staff are drafting a healthcare extenders bill. Baucus served as the head of the Senate Finance Committee when the ACA was negotiated and passed in 2010.

Neither Crapo’s nor Wyden’s offices immediately responded to questions about the negotiations. The ACA premium tax credits, which help certain marketplace beneficiaries afford their premium payments, were made larger and newly available for individuals making more than 4 times the federal poverty level during the Covid pandemic. But these subsidies expired at the end of 2025, sending premium payments upwards by 58%, according [analysis by KFF](#).

“The healthcare costs are going up so much,” Baucus said.

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