

# Access to Assistive Technology and Devices for Americans Study Act “Triple A Study Act” (S.1089/H.R.2461)



## Bipartisan Sponsors

Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) and Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)

Representative G.K. Butterfield (D-NC-01) and Representative Brett Guthrie (R-KY-02)

## Improving the Health of a Deserving Community

The Triple A Study Act will identify the best care practices for people living with limb loss or limb difference so they can be replicated across health systems, which will improve health outcomes for our community.

## What's Wrong?

Two-thirds of the 2.1 million Americans living with limb loss or limb difference never receive a prosthetic device, and little analysis exists to explain how those decisions are made or if individuals are getting the access to care they need. The information that does exist is difficult to compare across providers.

*The Amputee Coalition is the leading patient advocacy organization for the limb loss and limb difference community. Its mission is to reach out to and empower people affected by limb loss and limb difference to achieve their full potential through education, support, and advocacy, and to promote limb loss prevention. The organization serves the 2.1 million Americans living with limb loss and limb difference, the 28 million more who are at risk, and the 185,000 Americans who undergo amputation surgery every year.*

Learn more at [amputee-coalition.org](http://amputee-coalition.org).

If you have questions or would like additional information, please contact the Amputee Coalition at [advocacy@amputee-coalition.org](mailto:advocacy@amputee-coalition.org).

## Solving the Problem

The Triple A Study Act solves that problem by directing the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study barriers to care for assistive technologies, including prosthetic devices, and evaluate how those affect patient outcomes by comparing results across Medicare, the VA, and private insurers. It examines specific challenges, such as how often people are denied coverage, as well as outcomes, including whether patients can return to work.

## Examines Specifics

- ▶ Timely access to care, including educating patients on their options
- ▶ Matching specific devices with the needs of the individual
- ▶ Affordability
- ▶ Timelines for assessments for surgery and assistive devices
- ▶ Performance measures to monitor timelines for process prosthetic prescriptions
- ▶ Coverage denials and overturn rates
- ▶ Reductions in falls and secondary complications, such as diabetes and vascular disease