

HR 2175

Rural Healthcare Access Improvement Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 20, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Jun 2, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2175>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Sandlin, Max [D-TX-1]

Party: Democratic • State: TX • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Berry, Marion [D-AR-1]	D · AR		May 20, 2003
Rep. McIntyre, Mike [D-NC-7]	D · NC		May 20, 2003
Rep. Ross, Mike [D-AR-4]	D · AR		May 20, 2003
Rep. Turner, Jim [D-TX-2]	D · TX		May 20, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 2, 2003
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	May 27, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Rural Healthcare Access Improvement Act of 2003 - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to revise requirements with regard to rural health care, including: (1) urban and rural standardized payment amounts under the Medicare inpatient hospital prospective payment system (PPS); (2) the disproportionate share hospital (DSH) adjustment for rural hospitals; (3) the payment adjustment for low-volume hospitals; (4) the adjustment to the Medicare inpatient hospital PPS wage index to revise its labor-related share; (5) treatment of certain sole community hospitals to limit the decline in payment under the PPS for hospital outpatient department (ODP) services; and (6) the critical access hospital program.

Provides for a temporary increase for: (1) home health services furnished in a rural area; (2) certain services furnished by small rural hospitals under the Medicare prospective payment system for OPD services; and (3) ground ambulance services furnished in a rural area.

Amends SSA title XVIII to provide for: (1) exclusion of certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services from the Medicare PPS for skilled nursing facilities; and (2) Medicare incentive program changes.

Provides for two-year treatment of certain clinical diagnostic laboratory tests furnished by a sole community hospital.

Amends SSA title XVIII to provide for establishment of a floor on geographic adjustments of payments for physicians' services.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 2, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 27, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 21, 2003:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1011)
- **May 20, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **May 20, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **May 20, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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