

## HR 2388

### Physician Availability Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** May 13, 2009

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (May 14, 2009)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/2388>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 14, 2009

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Physician Availability Act of 2009 - Requires each covered hospital to have a qualified physician available in the hospital 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to attend to the needs of the hospital's inpatients.

Defines a "covered hospital" to: (1) include hospitals participating in Medicare or Medicaid or receiving federal funds; and (2) exclude hospitals in a federal facility or hospitals that the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines have fewer than 100 licensed beds.

Considers a physician to be available if: (1) the physician is physically present in the hospital; (2) the physician's primary responsibility is to be in attendance to serve the needs of the hospital's inpatients without delay; and (3) the physician is not physically present in, assigned to, serving in, or expected to cover the hospital's emergency room or emergency department.

Sets forth penalties for violations.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 14, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 13, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **May 13, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.