

HR 2879

Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jun 15, 2009

Current Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Latest Action: Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Mar 25, 2010)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/2879>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Perriello, Thomas S.P. [D-VA-5]	D · VA		Jun 15, 2009
Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Sep 30, 2009
Rep. Teague, Harry [D-NM-2]	D · NM		Oct 1, 2009
Rep. Minnick, Walter [D-ID-1]	D · ID		Oct 6, 2009
Rep. Walz, Timothy J. [D-MN-1]	D · MN		Oct 6, 2009
Rep. Halvorson, Deborah L. [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Oct 29, 2009
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Oct 29, 2009
Rep. Kissell, Larry [D-NC-8]	D · NC		Mar 10, 2010

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Mar 25, 2010

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 658	Identical bill	Apr 22, 2009: Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 111-76.

Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009 - Authorizes the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay travel expenses for veterans receiving treatment at Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) facilities at the rate of 41.5 cents per mile. (Under current law the rate is that provided to federal employees in connection with the performance of official duties.)

Directs the Secretary to: (1) establish and operate at least one and up to five centers of excellence for rural health research, education, and clinical activities; (2) establish a grant program to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in highly rural areas; (3) carry out demonstration projects to examine alternatives for expanding care for veterans in rural areas; (4) establish a program to provide peer support, readjustment, and mental health services to veterans who served in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom (and related services to their family members); (5) assign an Indian Veterans Health Care Coordinator for each of the ten VA facilities that serve communities with the greatest per capita number of Indian veterans; (6) report to Congress jointly with the Secretary of Health and Human Services on the advisability of the joint establishment and operation by the VA's Veterans Health Administration and the Indian Health Service of health clinics to serve populations of Indian reservations, including Indian veterans; and (7) report annually to Congress on matters related to VA care for veterans residing in rural areas.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 25, 2010:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Jun 19, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jun 15, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 15, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legiList.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legiList.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legiList.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legiList.com