

## HR 362

Rural Hospital Assistance Act of 2009

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jan 9, 2009

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

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

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/362>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Boswell, Leonard L. [D-IA-3]

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

### Cosponsors (16 total)

| Cosponsor                             | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Berry, Marion [D-AR-1]           | D · AR        |      | Jan 9, 2009  |
| Rep. Braley, Bruce L. [D-IA-1]        | D · IA        |      | Jan 9, 2009  |
| Rep. Emerson, Jo Ann [R-MO-8]         | R · MO        |      | Jan 9, 2009  |
| Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]         | D · IA        |      | Jan 9, 2009  |
| Rep. Boren, Dan [D-OK-2]              | D · OK        |      | Jan 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Skelton, Ike [D-MO-4]            | D · MO        |      | Jan 14, 2009 |
| Rep. Carney, Christopher P. [D-PA-10] | D · PA        |      | Jan 15, 2009 |
| Rep. Jackson-Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]    | D · TX        |      | Jan 22, 2009 |
| Rep. Wilson, Charles A. [D-OH-6]      | D · OH        |      | Jan 22, 2009 |
| Rep. Oberstar, James L. [D-MN-8]      | D · MN        |      | Feb 11, 2009 |
| Rep. Salazar, John T. [D-CO-3]        | D · CO        |      | Feb 11, 2009 |
| Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]     | D · MN        |      | Apr 28, 2009 |
| Rep. Carnahan, Russ [D-MO-3]          | D · MO        |      | Jun 16, 2009 |
| Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]            | D · CA        |      | Jul 13, 2009 |
| Rep. Moran, Jerry [R-KS-1]            | R · KS        |      | Sep 10, 2009 |
| Rep. Tiahrt, Todd [R-KS-4]            | R · KS        |      | Apr 14, 2010 |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                     | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House   | Referred to | Jan 14, 2009 |
| Ways and Means Committee      | House   | Referred To | Jan 9, 2009  |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 111 HR 3590 | Related bill | <b>Mar 23, 2010:</b> Became Public Law No: 111-148.          |
| 111 HR 3422 | Related bill | <b>Jul 31, 2009:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. |

### Summary (as of Jan 9, 2009)

Rural Hospital Assistance Act of 2009 - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act with respect to the additional inpatient hospital service payment (payment adjustment) for low-volume hospitals (usually meaning a "subsection (d) hospital" located more than 25 road miles from another subsection (d) hospital and having less than 800 discharges during the fiscal year.)

(Generally, a subsection (d) hospital is an acute care hospital, particularly one that receives payments under Medicare's inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) when providing covered inpatient services to eligible beneficiaries.)

Redefines low-volume hospital, for discharges occurring during FY2009 only, as a subsection (d) hospital located more than 15 (instead of 25) road miles from another subsection (d) hospital and having less than 1,500 (instead of 800) discharges of individuals entitled to, or enrolled for, Medicare part A (Hospital Insurance) benefits ("tweeners," or hospitals too large to be critical access hospitals, but too small to be financially viable under the Medicare hospital prospective payment system (PPS)).

Revises, for FY2010 only, the temporary applicable percentage in the formula for determining the payment adjustment for such hospitals.

Requires the use of the non-wage adjusted prospective payment rate (PPS) rate during FY2010 under the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program.

Prescribes requirements for hospitals to qualify for a Medicare hospital exception to the prohibition on certain physician referrals to hospitals in which such physicians have an ownership or investment interest in the entity. (Eliminates the Medicare hospital exception for physician-owned hospitals, but provides a limited exception for existing facilities.)

### Actions Timeline

- **Jan 14, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to House Ways and Means
- **Jan 9, 2009:** 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.
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to House Energy and Commerce