

S 712

Rural Medicare Equity Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Mar 26, 2009

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3899-3900)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3899-3900)
(Mar 26, 2009)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/712

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]

Party: Democratic • State: WI • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME] | R · ME | | Mar 26, 2009 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate | Referred To | Mar 26, 2009 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Rural Medicare Equity Act of 2009 - Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act (SSA) to eliminate the geographic physician work adjustment factor from the geographic indices used to adjust payments under the physician fee schedule.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a demonstration grants project designed to provide financial or other incentives to hospitals to attract educators and clinical practitioners so that hospitals that serve Medicare beneficiaries residing in underserved areas may host clinical rotations.

Directs the Secretary to establish up to 10 demonstration projects to provide for improvements, as recommended by the Institute of Medicine, in the quality of health care provided to individuals residing in rural areas.

Amends SSA title XVIII to require proportional representation of rural area interests on the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MEDPAC).

Directs the Secretary to implement the recommendations contained in the March 2005 GAO report 05-119 entitled "Medicare Physician Fees: Geographic Adjustment Indices are Valid in Design, but Data and Methods Need Refinement."

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 26, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 26, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3899)
- **Mar 26, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3899-3900)