

S 1680

Craig Thomas Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act of 2011

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Oct 11, 2011

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Oct 11, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/1680>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]

Party: Democratic • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (16 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Oct 11, 2011
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Oct 11, 2011
Sen. Roberts, Pat [R-KS]	R · KS		Oct 11, 2011
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	D · SD		Oct 12, 2011
Sen. Inhofe, James M. [R-OK]	R · OK		Oct 13, 2011
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 18, 2011
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 8, 2011
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Nov 17, 2011
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	R · IA		Nov 17, 2011
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Nov 18, 2011
Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]	D · NM		Nov 28, 2011
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		Dec 8, 2011
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 12, 2011
Sen. Akaka, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Dec 15, 2011
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jan 23, 2012
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Feb 14, 2012

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 11, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 5624	Related bill	May 15, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 HR 5194	Related bill	May 2, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 HR 3859	Related bill	Feb 9, 2012: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 HR 2267	Related bill	Jul 7, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 S 891	Related bill	May 5, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
112 HR 1044	Related bill	Mar 17, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 S 604	Related bill	Mar 17, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
112 HR 1005	Related bill	Mar 15, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
112 S 424	Related bill	Mar 1, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
112 S 227	Related bill	Jan 31, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Craig Thomas Rural Hospital and Provider Equity Act of 2011 - Expresses the sense of the Senate that residents of rural and frontier communities should have access to affordable, quality health care.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act with respect to: (1) the Medicare disproportionate share hospital (DSH) adjustment for rural hospitals; (2) extension of the temporary increase in payments to certain rural hospitals (Medicare hold harmless provision); (3) the Medicare inpatient hospital payment adjustment for low-volume hospitals; (4) Medicare wage index reclassifications for certain hospitals; (5) Medicare reasonable costs payments for certain clinical diagnostic laboratory tests furnished to hospitals in certain rural areas; (6) elimination of the isolation test for the cost-based ambulance reimbursement for critical access hospitals; (7) the capital infrastructure revolving loan program; (8) the Medicare incentive payment program for physician scarcity areas; (9) extension of the 1.00 floor on Medicare work geographic adjustment to payments for physician services; (10) permission for physician assistants to order post-hospital extended care services or hospice care; (11) Medicare home health care planning; (12) rural health clinics; (13) a temporary Medicare payment increase for home health services furnished in a rural area; (14) extension of increased Medicare payments for rural ground ambulance services; and (15) coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under Medicare part B (Supplementary Medical Insurance).

Amends the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 to provide for the extension of the payment for the technical component of certain physician pathology services under Medicare.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to encourage and facilitate the adoption of provisions allowing for multistate practitioner practice across state lines.

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to extend Medicare part A (Hospital Insurance) coverage and payment, on a reasonable cost basis, to anesthesia services furnished by a physician anesthesiologist in certain rural hospitals in the same manner as payment is made for anesthesia services furnished by a certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) in such hospitals.

Establishes the floor at 1.00 on the practice expense geographic index for services furnished during a specified period in certain rural areas outside of frontier states under the Medicare physician fee schedule.

Revises the standard for designation of sole community hospitals.

Amends the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, as amended by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, to include standby and on-call time costs for CRNAs in determination of the reasonable costs incurred by a hospital or critical access hospital for CRNA services.

Amends the Public Health Service Act to extend the authorization of appropriations for grants to states for operation of offices of rural health.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 11, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
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