

S 3103

Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Dec 18, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S7161)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S7161) (Dec 18, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3103>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]

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

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lankford, James [R-OK]	R · OK		Dec 18, 2019
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 10, 2020
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		May 21, 2020
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Jun 3, 2020
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jun 17, 2020
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Jun 18, 2020
Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 18, 2020
Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]	R · MS		Jul 23, 2020
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Sep 10, 2020
Sen. Rounds, Mike [R-SD]	R · SD		Oct 24, 2020
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Dec 11, 2020
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Dec 21, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Dec 19, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5481	Identical bill	Dec 18, 2019: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2019

This bill allows additional hospitals to qualify as critical access hospitals (CAHs) that receive special payment under Medicare.

Currently, in order to qualify as a CAH under Medicare, a hospital must either (1) be located more than 35 miles (or 15 miles in mountainous regions or areas with only secondary roads) from another hospital, or (2) have been certified prior to January 1, 2006, by the state as a necessary provider of services in the area.

The bill allows a hospital to also qualify if the hospital is a small, rural hospital that (1) serves a health professional shortage area, or a high number of low-income individuals or Medicare or Medicaid beneficiaries; (2) has experienced financial losses for two consecutive years; and (3) attests to having a strategic plan to address financial solvency.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 18, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
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