

## HR 3429

### HEARTS and Rural Relief Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jun 24, 2019

**Current Status:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 116-620, Part I.

**Latest Action:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 116-620, Part I. (Dec 7, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/3429>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]

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

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Nunes, Devin [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Jun 24, 2019
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Jun 25, 2019

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 25, 2019
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 25, 2019
Ways and Means Committee	House	Reported By	Dec 7, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 3431	Related bill	Jun 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
116 HR 3433	Related bill	Jun 25, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
116 HR 3416	Identical bill	Jun 24, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
116 HR 2371	Related bill	Apr 26, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
116 HR 2293	Related bill	Apr 15, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **HEARTS and Rural Relief Act**

This bill makes a series of changes relating to Medicare coverage and requirements, particularly with respect to military retirees. Specifically, the bill (1) exempts certain military retirees who are under 65 years of age, and who no longer receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, from the requirement to enroll in Medicare medical services in order to be eligible for TRICARE; (2) increases funding for the Medicare Improvement Fund; and (3) temporarily provides for Medicare coverage of certain prostate cancer DNA Specimen Provenance Assay tests.

The bill also makes other changes to Medicare payment systems for certain items and services. Among other things, the bill (1) requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to specify the criteria used to exclude certain procedures from the list of covered surgical procedures that may be performed in an ambulatory surgical center under Medicare, and (2) extends the instruction from the CMS for contractors not to enforce the requirements for direct physician supervision of outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2021.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 7, 2020:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 116-620, Part I.
- **Jun 26, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 26, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 25, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.
- **Jun 25, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Jun 24, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 24, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Armed Services, 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.