

HR 5481

Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Dec 18, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. (Dec 18, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5481>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kinzinger, Adam [R-IL-16]

Party: Republican • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (23 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2] | D · IA | | Dec 18, 2019 |
| Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20] | D · CA | | Dec 18, 2019 |
| Rep. Axne, Cynthia [D-IA-3] | D · IA | | Feb 6, 2020 |
| Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13] | R · IL | | Feb 6, 2020 |
| Rep. Lucas, Frank D. [R-OK-3] | R · OK | | Feb 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4] | R · OK | | Feb 28, 2020 |
| Rep. Keller, Fred [R-PA-12] | R · PA | | Mar 2, 2020 |
| Rep. Walberg, Tim [R-MI-7] | R · MI | | Mar 2, 2020 |
| Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1] | R · MI | | Mar 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2] | D · MN | | Mar 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Guest, Michael [R-MS-3] | R · MS | | May 5, 2020 |
| Rep. Moolenaar, John R. [R-MI-4] | R · MI | | May 15, 2020 |
| Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2] | D · GA | | Jun 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4] | R · AR | | Jun 11, 2020 |
| Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7] | D · AL | | Jun 18, 2020 |
| Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4] | R · AL | | Jun 26, 2020 |
| Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4] | R · MO | | Jun 26, 2020 |
| Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12] | R · OH | | Jul 23, 2020 |
| Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17] | D · IL | | Aug 7, 2020 |
| Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8] | D · PA | | Aug 21, 2020 |
| Rep. Comer, James [R-KY-1] | R · KY | | Sep 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Cox, TJ [D-CA-21] | D · CA | | Sep 23, 2020 |
| Rep. Finkenauer, Abby [D-IA-1] | D · IA | | Sep 23, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred To | Dec 18, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|------------|----------------|--|
| 116 S 3103 | Identical bill | Dec 18, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S7161) |

Summary (as of Dec 18, 2019)

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 House
- **Dec 18, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.