

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.