

## HR 5681

Protecting Communities from Hospital Closures Act of 2020

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jan 27, 2020

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (Jan 27, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5681>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-2]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 27, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Protecting Communities from Hospital Closures Act of 2020**

This bill prohibits hospitals from closing unless pursuant to a plan approved by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Specifically, a hospital must (1) notify HHS before closing most or all of its units or departments or specific units or departments where the closure may significantly impact the health and welfare of a community (e.g., emergency departments or labor and delivery units), and (2) provide a closure plan that addresses specified issues related to continuity of patient care and the health and safety needs of the community served by the departments or units. HHS may reject, approve, or require modification of the plan.

The bill provides for certain judicial remedies in the event of closures that occur without an approved plan or in violation of an approved plan.

### **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Jan 27, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 27, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.