

HR 8025

Protecting Rural Access to Care Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Aug 11, 2020

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

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. (Aug 11, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8025>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Delgado, Antonio [D-NY-19]	D · NY		Aug 11, 2020
Rep. Brindisi, Anthony [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Aug 18, 2020
Rep. Jacobs, Chris [R-NY-27]	R · NY		Sep 23, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Aug 11, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Protecting Rural Access to Care Act

This bill limits the scope of guidance issued by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) regarding the secondary road criteria for Medicare critical access hospitals (CAHs).

Currently, in order to qualify as a CAH under Medicare, a hospital must either (1) be located more than 35 miles (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 CMS issued guidance on July 31, 2015, that provided more detail as to the differences between primary and secondary roads for purposes of CAH certification. The bill specifies that this guidance does not apply to CAHs that were certified prior to July 31, 2015, and that these CAHs are instead subject to the standards that were in place before the guidance was issued. Ongoing CAH certifications are also subject to pre-guidance standards until the CMS issues new guidance after a specified public comment period.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 11, 2020:** Introduced in House
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