

## S 198

### Rural Health Clinic Burden Reduction Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Feb 1, 2023

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Feb 1, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/198>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** WY • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 1, 2023
Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]	R · TN		Feb 1, 2023
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Feb 1, 2023
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		Feb 7, 2023
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		May 3, 2023
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 1, 2023
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [I-AZ]	I · AZ		Sep 5, 2023
Sen. Peters, Gary C. [D-MI]	D · MI		Dec 4, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 1, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3730	Identical bill	<b>Dec 17, 2024:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Rural Health Clinic Burden Reduction Act**

This bill makes a series of changes to requirements that apply to rural health clinics under Medicare.

For example, the bill allows rural health clinics that are not directed by physicians to enter into arrangements with physician assistants or nurse practitioners that generally comply with state laws (regarding scope of practice), rather than other specific requirements.

It also specifies that rural health clinics (1) need only have prompt access to clinical laboratory services (as opposed to having to directly provide these services); (2) must be located in a non-urban area with a population that is less than 50,000; (3) may contract with (as opposed to employ) physician assistants or nurse practitioners; and (4) may primarily provide mental health services if located in a designated mental health professional shortage area.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 1, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 1, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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