

## HR 4603

Rural Wellness Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Jul 13, 2023

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development. (Aug 24, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/4603>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Caraveo, Yadira [D-CO-8]

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

### Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Finstad, Brad [R-MN-1]	R · MN		Jul 13, 2023
Rep. Budzinski, Nikki [D-IL-13]	D · IL		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Aug 22, 2023
Rep. Davis, Donald G. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Salinas, Andrea [D-OR-6]	D · OR		Sep 5, 2023
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Sep 26, 2023
Rep. Tokuda, Jill N. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Oct 3, 2023
Rep. Keating, William R. [D-MA-9]	D · MA		Oct 26, 2023
Rep. Molinaro, Marcus J. [R-NY-19]	R · NY		Dec 5, 2023
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Feb 28, 2024
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Aug 9, 2024

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 24, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Agriculture and Food

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Rural Wellness Act**

This bill prioritizes behavioral and mental health treatment services under certain rural development grant and loan programs. The bill also reauthorizes through FY2028 the set-asides and prioritizations for substance use disorder treatment services under the Department of Agriculture's (1) Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program, (2) Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program, and (3) Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program.

Under the community facilities program, the bill prioritizes direct loans and grants for the development of behavioral and mental health services facilities, including facilities that provide treatment services. Further, loans and grants provided under the program may be used to develop facilities and systems to provide telehealth services for behavioral and mental health treatment.

Under the Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program, the bill prioritizes grants for behavioral and mental health education and treatment.

Under the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants Program, the bill includes a 17% set-aside for telemedicine projects that provide substance use disorder treatment services (currently a 20% set-aside).

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Aug 24, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development.
- **Jul 13, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 13, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

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