

HR 6475

Health Disparity Zones Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Nov 21, 2023

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Dec 17, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6475>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Thanedar, Shri [D-MI-13]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred to | Nov 24, 2023 |
| Ways and Means Committee | House | Referred to | Dec 17, 2024 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Health Disparity Zones Act of 2023

This bill provides for the designation of Health Disparity Zones in certain geographic areas with documented and measurable health disparities. This designation, which expires 10 fiscal years after the bill's enactment, confers eligibility for certain grants, student loan repayment programs, and tax credits for those working to reduce health disparities and improve health outcomes in these zones.

Specifically, community-based nonprofits or local government agencies, in coalition with health care providers, social service organizations, and others, may apply to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for the designation. The application must include a plan to reduce health disparities and achieve other outcomes.

In implementing the program, HHS must consult with, among others, the Department of Housing and Urban Development. When approving applications, HHS shall consider factors including geographic diversity and the commitment of supporting funds from the private sector. HHS (1) may award grants to organizations or agencies that applied for the designation to support activities aligned with their plans, and (2) must carry out a student loan repayment program for health care providers who agree to provide services in a Health Disparity Zone.

In addition, the bill establishes tax credits for employers that hire, and individuals who work as, Health Disparity Zone workers.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 17, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Nov 24, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Nov 21, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 21, 2023:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.