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### Rural Health Focus Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Feb 5, 2025

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Feb 5, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/403>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]

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

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 5, 2025
Sen. Ossoff, Jon [D-GA]	D · GA		Mar 13, 2025
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Jul 15, 2025

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 5, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 3102	Related bill	<b>Apr 30, 2025:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## **Rural Health Focus Act**

This bill provides statutory authority for the Office of Rural Health (ORH) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC established the ORH in 2023 in response to a congressional directive, and it currently leads the CDC's rural public health strategy.

Specifically, the bill requires the CDC to establish the ORH and select a director to head the ORH. The bill specifies the duties and authorities of the ORH director, including improving understanding of particular challenges and implementing programs to improve health care for rural populations.

