

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9823

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive certain distance requirements for certain hospitals electing to be designated as critical access hospitals.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

Mr. FLOOD (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

---

## A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive certain distance requirements for certain hospitals electing to be designated as critical access hospitals.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Supporting Access to  
5 Rural Community Hospitals Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. WAIVING CERTAIN DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR**  
2 **CERTAIN HOSPITALS ELECTING TO BE DES-**  
3 **IGNATED AS CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1820(c)(2)(B)(i) of the  
5 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–4(c)(2)(B)(i)) is  
6 amended—

7 (1) in subclause (I), by striking “or” at the  
8 end;

9 (2) in subclause (II), by adding “or” at the  
10 end; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
12 clause:

13 “(III) with respect to designa-  
14 tions occurring during the 1-year pe-  
15 riod beginning on the date that is 6  
16 months after the date of the enact-  
17 ment of this subclause, is a rural com-  
18 munity hospital (as defined in sub-  
19 section (f) of section 410A of the  
20 Medicare Prescription Drug, Improve-  
21 ment, and Modernization Act of 2003)  
22 that was participating in the dem-  
23 onstration program established under  
24 such section as of such date of enact-  
25 ment.”.

1           (b)           CONFORMING           AMENDMENTS.—Section  
2 410A(f)(1)(A)(iv) of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Im-  
3 provement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C.  
4 1395ww note) is amended by striking “is not” and all that  
5 follows through the period and inserting “is not a critical  
6 access hospital (as defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the  
7 Social Security Act).”.

○