

# NRHA Hospital Bills Summaries

**H.R. 833**

## **Save America's Rural Hospitals Act**

Reps. Graves (R-MO) and Huffman (D-CA)

This legislation works to ensure critical rural providers are equipped to support their patients through a number of provisions including permanently eliminates Medicare sequestration for rural hospitals, makes permanent Low-Volume Hospitals and Medicare-Dependent Hospitals designations, reverses cuts to reimbursement of bad debt, permanently increases Medicare payments for ground ambulance services, and reauthorizes the Flex program, among other provisions.

**H.R. 1565**

## **Critical Access Hospital Relief Act of 2023**

Reps. Smith (R-NE) and Sewell (D-AL)

This bill repeals the 96-hour physician-certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services under Medicare.

**S. 803**

**H.R. 3635**

## **Save Rural Hospitals Act of 2023**

Sens. Warner (D-VA) and Blackburn (R-TN)

Reps. Sewell (D-AL) and Ferguson (R-GA)

This bill establishes a national minimum area wage rate under the Medicare Area Wage Index for hospital payments to adjust for geographic differences in labor costs.

**S. 1110**

## **Rural Hospital Support Act of 2023**

Sens. Casey (D-PA) and Grassley (R-IA)

This bill makes permanent low-volume hospital and Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) designations, and allows sole community hospitals and MDH base year adjustments.

**S. 1571**

## **Rural Hospital Closure Relief Act Of 2023**

Sens. Durbin (D-IL) and Lankford (R-OK)

This bill provides flexibility around the 35-mile distance requirement and enables states to certify a hospital as a "necessary provider" in order to obtain CAH designation, expanding the number of rural hospitals who qualify.