

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5103

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the floor on the area wage index under the inpatient prospective payment system to certain sole community hospitals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 14, 2019

Mr. PETERSON (for himself and Mr. TIPTON) 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 extend the floor on the area wage index under the inpatient prospective payment system to certain sole community 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 “Rural Hospital Fron-
5 tier Workforce Fairness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXTENDING FLOOR ON AREA WAGE INDEX TO CER-**
2 **TAIN SOLE COMMUNITY HOSPITALS.**

3 Section 1886(d)(3)(E)(iii) of the Social Security Act
4 (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(3)(E)(iii)) is amended—

5 (1) in subclause (I), by inserting before the pe-
6 riod at the end the following: “and, for discharges
7 occurring on or after October 1, 2019, the area
8 wage index applicable under this subparagraph to
9 any sole community hospital that is located not more
10 than 75 miles from the closest frontier State and
11 that makes an election under subclause (V) may not
12 be less than 1.00”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 clause:

15 “(V) SOLE COMMUNITY HOS-
16 PITAL ELECTION.—The Secretary
17 shall provide for a process under
18 which a sole community hospital de-
19 scribed in subclause (I) may elect, at
20 such time and in such manner as
21 specified by the Secretary, to apply
22 subclause (I) to such sole community
23 hospital.”.

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