

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9093

To prioritize healthcare facilities and mental or behavioral health facilities in the Community Facilities program for fiscal years 2025 through 2031, and allow loans and grants under the program to be used for medical supplies, increasing telehealth capabilities, supporting staffing needs, or renovating and remodeling closed facilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2024

Ms. UNDERWOOD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To prioritize healthcare facilities and mental or behavioral health facilities in the Community Facilities program for fiscal years 2025 through 2031, and allow loans and grants under the program to be used for medical supplies, increasing telehealth capabilities, supporting staffing needs, or renovating and remodeling closed facilities.

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 “Prioritizing Rural Hos-
5 pitals Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRIORITIZATION UNDER THE COMMUNITY FACILI-**
2 **TIES LOAN AND GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—In selecting recipients of direct
4 loans or grants for the development of essential commu-
5 nity facilities under section 306(a) of the Consolidated
6 Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)) for
7 fiscal years 2025 through 2031, the Secretary of Agri-
8 culture shall give priority to entities eligible for those di-
9 rect loans or grants to develop facilities to provide
10 healthcare or mental or behavioral healthcare.

11 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity described in
12 subsection (a) that receives a direct loan or grant de-
13 scribed in subsection (a) may use the direct loan or grant
14 funds for medical supplies, increasing telehealth capabili-
15 ties, supporting staffing needs, or renovating and remod-
16 eling closed facilities.

17 (c) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—Of the amounts made
18 available for guaranteed loans under section 310B(g) of
19 the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act for
20 each of fiscal years 2025 through 2031, 10 percent shall
21 be reserved to carry out this section.

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