

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3688

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the floor for the practice expense and work geographic indices for certain areas.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 15, 2026

Mr. SULLIVAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the floor for the practice expense and work geographic indices for certain areas.

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 Underpayment
5 Remedy through Adjusted Local Rate Act” or the
6 “RURAL Rate Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE OF THE FLOOR FOR PRACTICE EXPENSE**
2 **AND WORK GEOGRAPHIC INDICES FOR CER-**
3 **TAIN AREAS.**

4 Section 1848(e)(1)(G) of the Social Security Act (42
5 U.S.C. 1395w-4(e)(1)(G)) is amended—

6 (1) in the second sentence—

7 (A) by inserting “and before January 1,
8 2026,” after “January 1, 2009,”; and

9 (B) by inserting a period at the end; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sen-
11 tence: “For purposes of payment for services fur-
12 nished in the State described in the first sentence on
13 or after January 1, 2026, after calculating the prac-
14 tice expense and work geographic indices in clauses
15 (i) and (iii) of subparagraph (A) and in subpara-
16 graph (B), the Secretary shall increase either such
17 index to 1.67 if such index would otherwise be less
18 than 1.67.”.

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