

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2191

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise certain physician self-referral exemptions relating to physician-owned hospitals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 18, 2025

Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CORREA, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise certain physician self-referral exemptions relating to physician-owned 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 “Physician Led and
5 Rural Access to Quality Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISING CERTAIN PHYSICIAN SELF-REFERRAL EX-**
2 **EMPTIONS RELATING TO PHYSICIAN-OWNED**
3 **HOSPITALS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1877 of the Social Secu-
5 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395nn) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (d)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2)(C), by inserting
8 “(other than a covered rural hospital (as de-
9 fined in subsection (h)))” after “a hospital”;
10 and

11 (B) in paragraph (3)(D), by inserting “in
12 the case of a hospital other than a covered rural
13 hospital (as defined in subsection (h)),” before
14 “the hospital”; and

15 (2) in subsection (h), by adding at the end the
16 following new paragraph:

17 “(8) COVERED RURAL HOSPITAL.—The term
18 ‘covered rural hospital’ means a hospital that—

19 “(A) is located in a rural area (as defined
20 in section 1886(d)(2)(D)); and

21 “(B) as of the date that such hospital en-
22 rolls under this title, is located more than a 35-
23 mile drive (or, in the case of mountainous ter-
24 rain or in areas with only secondary roads
25 available, a 15-mile drive) from a hospital or a
26 critical access hospital.”.

1 (b) ALLOWING FOR EXPANSION OF EXISTING PHYSI-
2 CIAN-OWNED HOSPITALS.—Section 1877(i) of the Social
3 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395nn(i)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “in para-
5 graph (3)” and inserting “in paragraph (3) or (7)”;
6 and

7 (2) by adding at the end the following new
8 paragraph:

9 “(7) SUNSET OF EXPANSION PROHIBITION.—
10 The requirement described in paragraph (1)(B) shall
11 not apply beginning on the date of the enactment of
12 this paragraph.”.

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