

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7514

To authorize rural health facilities to use certain Federal agricultural credit assistance for the purpose of refinancing debt obligations, updating necessary services, technology, and equipment, and supporting ancillary needs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Ms. SALINAS (for herself, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mr. MOYLAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To authorize rural health facilities to use certain Federal agricultural credit assistance for the purpose of refinancing debt obligations, updating necessary services, technology, and equipment, and supporting ancillary needs.

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 Health Care  
5 Facilities Revitalization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ASSISTANCE FOR DISTRESSED RURAL HEALTH**  
2 **CARE FACILITIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of the Consolidated  
4 Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1922–1936e)  
5 is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 310J. ASSISTANCE FOR DISTRESSED RURAL HEALTH**  
7 **CARE FACILITIES.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—A health care facility, including  
9 a hospital, behavioral health facility, health care clinic (in-  
10 cluding a mobile health care clinic), home health agency,  
11 and long-term care facility, in a rural area may use assist-  
12 ance provided under section 306(a) for a community facil-  
13 ity, or under section 310B, to—

14 “(1) refinance a debt obligation;

15 “(2) update a telehealth, equipment, or online  
16 database; or

17 “(3) support ancillary needs, including oper-  
18 ating expenses and reserve funds.

19 “(b) LIMITATIONS.—A facility may use assistance  
20 pursuant to subsection (a) only if doing so would—

21 “(1) help preserve access to a health service in  
22 a rural community;

23 “(2) meaningfully improve the financial position  
24 of the facility; and

1           “(3) otherwise meet the financial feasibility and  
2           security adequacy requirements of the Rural Devel-  
3           opment Agency.

4           “(c) WAIVER.—In the case of an application from a  
5           facility referred to in subsection (a) of this section for as-  
6           sistance under section 306(a) for a community facility, or  
7           under section 310B, the Secretary may waive the require-  
8           ment of section 302(a)(1)(D) if the facility that is insol-  
9           vent or located in a persistent poverty area, socially vul-  
10          nerable community (as determined by the Secretary), or  
11          distressed area (as determined by the Secretary).

12          “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13           “(1) PERSISTENT POVERTY AREA.—The term  
14           ‘persistent poverty area’ means an area with a pov-  
15           erty rate of 20 percent or more for 4 consecutive  
16           time periods, approximately 10 years apart, span-  
17           ning approximately 30 years.

18           “(2) RURAL AREA.—The term ‘rural area’  
19           means an area with a population of 50,000 or fewer  
20           inhabitants that is not an urbanized area adjacent  
21           or contiguous to a city with a population of more  
22           than 50,000 inhabitants.”.

1           (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) shall take effect 6 months after the date  
3 of the enactment of this Act.

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