



NRHA Supported Legislation

Bill	Effect
Rural Hospital Regulatory Relief Act of 2017 H.R. 741 – Jenkins (R-KS-2), Loebbeck (D-IA-2) S. 243 – Thune (R-SD), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND)	Permanently extends the non-enforcement of the direct supervision of therapy services requirement.
Improving Access to Maternity Care Act H.R. 315 – Burgess (R-TX-26), Eshoo (D-CA-18), Roybal-Allard (D-CA-40)	Designates maternity care health professional shortage areas and collects data regarding the full scope of maternity care including labor, birthing, prenatal, and postnatal care.
Save Rural Hospitals Act H.R. Pending – Graves (R-MO-6), Loebbeck (D-IA-2)	Reverses cuts to rural hospitals, provides regulatory relief, and develops a new provider type – the Community Outpatient Hospital – which provides a 24/7 Emergency Room, outpatient services, and primary care services.
Indian Health Service Advanced Appropriations Act of 2017 H.R. 235 – Young (R-AK-At Large)	Authorizes advance appropriations for the Indian Health Services and Indian Health Facilities accounts of the Indian Health Service. The bill requires the President's budget and the supporting documents submitted to Congress to include detailed estimates related to the advance appropriations.
Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act of 2017 H.R. 304 – Hudson (R-NC-8)	Codifying the practice of standing orders by a physician Medical Director for the administration and delivery of controlled substances, maintaining physician oversight of medical decisions, while, making the EMS Agency liable for the receiving, storing, and tracking of controlled substances, similar to current procedure at hospitals.
Repeal of the Obamacare Bay State Boondoggle Act H.R. 2224 – Smith (R-NE-3) S. 251 – Wyden (D-OR)	Eliminates an ACA provision that manipulates the Medicare wage index to benefit a few states while reducing the wage index for the rest of the nation.
S. 260 – Cornyn (R-TX)	Repeals the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.
Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act H.R. 592 – Guthrie (R-KY-2), Kind (D-WI-3)	Provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.
Top OD Act of 2017 H.R. 664 – Joyce (R-OH-14), Ryan (D-OH-13)	To prevent the abuse of opiates, to improve response and treatment for the abuse of opiates and related overdoses by expansion of grants for education and naloxone training and administration.
Preserve Access to Medicare Rural Home Health Services Act of 2017 S. 353 – Collins (R-ME)	Amends the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 to extend through 2022 the rural add-on, which is a payment increase for Medicare home health services furnished to patients in rural areas.

<p>Rural Access to Hospice Act of 2017</p> <p>S. 980 – Capito (R-WV) H.R.1828 – Jenkins (R-KS-2)</p>	<p>Provides for payments for certain RHC and FQHCs furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.</p>
<p>Restoring Rural Residencies Act of 2017</p> <p>S.455 – Sen. Tester, Jon (D-MT)</p>	<p>Reimburses medical residency training programs under Medicare for certain GME costs associated with resident time spent CAHs.</p>
<p>Rural Hospital Access Act of 2017</p> <p>S. 872 – Grassley (R-IA) H.R. 1955 – Reed (R-NY-23)</p>	<p>Makes permanent the extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.</p>
<p>Medicare Ambulance Access, Fraud Prevention, and Reform Act of 2017</p> <p>S. 967 – Stabenow (D-MI)</p>	<p>Makes permanent the add-on Medicare payment rates for ambulance services in rural areas, among other important reforms</p>
<p>Helping Expand Access to Rural Telehealth (HEART) Act</p> <p>H.R. 2291 – Duffy (R-WI-7)</p>	<p>Expands coverage of telehealth services under the Medicare program, to provide coverage for home-based monitoring for congestive heart failure and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease under such program.</p>