

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119–8
OFFERED BY MR. NEWHOUSE OF WASHINGTON

At the end of subtitle A of title XVII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 17____. PROVIDING CRITICAL HEALTH CARE ACCESS**
2 **FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, DE-**
3 **PENDENTS, AND VETERANS OF RURAL**
4 **AREAS.**

5 Section 1820(c)(2) of the Social Security Act (42
6 U.S.C. 1395i–4(c)(2)) is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (B)(i)(I), by inserting
8 “subject to subparagraph (F),” before “is located”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (E)(ii), by striking “The
10 total” and inserting “Subject to subparagraph (F),
11 the total”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
13 paragraph:

14 “(F) CRITICAL ACCESS FOR CERTAIN MEM-
15 BERS, DEPENDENTS, AND VETERANS OF RURAL
16 AREAS.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—Beginning Octo-
18 ber 1, 2025, a State may designate a facil-

1 ity as a critical access hospital, without re-
2 gard to the distance between the facility
3 and a hospital (or another facility de-
4 scribed in this subsection), if the facility
5 meets three or more of the following cri-
6 teria:

7 “(I) The hospital—

8 “(aa) delivers health care
9 services to individuals covered
10 under the TRICARE program
11 (as defined in section 1072 of
12 title 10, United States Code) and
13 veterans enrolled in the patient
14 enrollment system under section
15 1705 of title 38, United States
16 Code, living in rural areas; and

17 “(bb) is a designated rural
18 hospital, as defined by the Ad-
19 ministrator for the Centers for
20 Medicare and Medicaid Services.

21 “(II) The hospital is not other-
22 wise designated as a critical access
23 hospital or sole community hospital,
24 as defined by the Administrator for

1 the Centers for Medicare and Med-
2 icaid Services.

3 “(III) 8 percent or more of the
4 gross revenue of the hospital and its
5 provider-based departments, including
6 affiliated outpatient department and
7 provider-based clinics, is derived from
8 services provided to individuals cov-
9 ered under the TRICARE program.

10 “(IV) 15 percent or more of the
11 gross revenue from labor and delivery
12 services of the hospital are derived
13 from services provided to individuals
14 covered under the TRICARE pro-
15 gram.

16 “(V) The hospital is located on a
17 reservation (as defined in section 4 of
18 the Indian Health Care Improvement
19 Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).

20 “(ii) PSYCHIATRIC AND REHABILITA-
21 TION DISTINCT PART UNITS.—A facility
22 described in clause (i) may establish a dis-
23 tinct part unit under subparagraph (E)
24 without regard to the limitation on number
25 of beds under clause (ii) of such subpara-

1 graph. The Secretary of Health and
2 Human Services may not take a distinct
3 part unit so established by such facility
4 into account when determining whether
5 such facility is primarily engaged in pro-
6 viding the services described in section
7 1861(e)(1).”.

