

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1209
OFFERED BY MR. BURGESS OF TEXAS AND MRS.
CAPPS OF CALIFORNIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Access to
3 Maternity Care Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. MATERNITY CARE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TARGET
5 AREAS.**

6 Section 332 of the Public Health Service Act (42
7 U.S.C. 254e) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(k)(1) The Secretary, acting through the Adminis-
10 trator of the Health Resources and Services Administra-
11 tion, shall identify, based on the data collected under para-
12 graph (3), maternity care health professional target areas
13 that satisfy the criteria described in paragraph (2) for
14 purposes of, in connection with receipt of assistance under
15 this title, assigning to such identified areas maternity care
16 health professionals who, without application of this sub-
17 section, would otherwise be eligible for such assistance.

1 The Secretary shall distribute maternity care health pro-
2 fessionals within health professional shortage areas using
3 the maternity care health professional target areas so
4 identified.

5 “(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the Secretary
6 shall establish criteria for maternity care health profes-
7 sional target areas that identify geographic areas within
8 health professional shortage areas that have a shortage
9 of maternity care health professionals.

10 “(3) For purposes of this subsection, the Secretary
11 shall collect and publish in the Federal Register data com-
12 paring the availability and need of maternity care health
13 services in health professional shortage areas and in areas
14 within such health professional shortage areas.

15 “(4) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary
16 shall seek input from relevant provider organizations, in-
17 cluding medical societies, organizations representing med-
18 ical facilities, and other organizations with expertise in
19 maternity care.

20 “(5) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘full
21 scope maternity care health services’ includes during labor
22 care, birthing, prenatal care, and postpartum care.

23 “(6) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed
24 as—

1 “(A) permitting the identification of an area as
2 a maternity care health professional target area
3 that, without application of this subsection, would
4 not otherwise be designated as, or included within
5 an area designated as, a health professional shortage
6 area;

7 “(B) affecting the types of health professionals,
8 without application of this subsection, otherwise eli-
9 gible for assistance, including a loan repayment or
10 scholarship, pursuant to the application of this sec-
11 tion; or

12 “(C) affecting the authority of the Secretary to
13 designate a maternity care health professional short-
14 age area.”.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to distribute maternity care health professionals to health professional shortage areas identified as in need of maternity care health services.”.

