

Union Calendar No.

114TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 1209

[Report No. 114-]

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the designation of maternity care health professional shortage areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2015

Mr. BURGESS (for himself, Mrs. CAPPS, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

SEPTEMBER --, 2016

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 3, 2015]

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the designation of maternity care health professional shortage areas.

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 “Improving Access to Ma-*
5 *ternity Care Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. MATERNITY CARE HEALTH PROFESSIONAL TARGET**
7 **AREAS.**

8 *Section 332 of the Public Health Service Act (42*
9 *U.S.C. 254e) is amended by adding at the end the following*
10 *new subsection:*

11 *“(k)(1) The Secretary, acting through the Adminis-*
12 *trator of the Health Resources and Services Administration,*
13 *shall identify, based on the data collected under paragraph*
14 *(3), maternity care health professional target areas that sat-*
15 *isfy the criteria described in paragraph (2) for purposes*
16 *of, in connection with receipt of assistance under this title,*
17 *assigning to such identified areas maternity care health*
18 *professionals who, without application of this subsection,*
19 *would otherwise be eligible for such assistance. The Sec-*
20 *retary shall distribute maternity care health professionals*
21 *within health professional shortage areas using the mater-*
22 *nity care health professional target areas so identified.*

23 *“(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the Secretary shall*
24 *establish criteria for maternity care health professional tar-*
25 *get areas that identify geographic areas within health pro-*

1 *professional shortage areas that have a shortage of maternity*
2 *care health professionals.*

3 “(3) *For purposes of this subsection, the Secretary*
4 *shall collect and publish in the Federal Register data com-*
5 *paring the availability and need of maternity care health*
6 *services in health professional shortage areas and in areas*
7 *within such health professional shortage areas.*

8 “(4) *In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary*
9 *shall seek input from relevant provider organizations, in-*
10 *cluding medical societies, organizations representing med-*
11 *ical facilities, and other organizations with expertise in ma-*
12 *ternity care.*

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

16 “(6) *Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as—*
17 “(A) *requiring the identification of a maternity*
18 *care health professional target area in an area not*
19 *otherwise already designated as a health professional*
20 *shortage area; or*

21 “(B) *affecting the types of health professionals,*
22 *without application of this subsection, otherwise eligi-*
23 *ble for assistance, including a loan repayment or*
24 *scholarship, pursuant to the application of this sec-*
25 *tion.”.*

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.”.