

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 310

To amend the Small Business Act to include hospitals serving rural areas or areas of persistent poverty in the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 12, 2021

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. SMITH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act to include hospitals serving rural areas or areas of persistent poverty in the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes.

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 “PPP Access for Rural
5 Hospitals Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF CRITICAL CARE HOSPITALS IN THE**
7 **PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM.**

8 (a) **ELIGIBILITY OF HOSPITALS WITH MORE THAN**
9 **ONE PHYSICAL LOCATION.**—Section 7(a)(36)(D)(iii)(I) of

1 the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(a)(36)(D)(iii)(I))
 2 is amended by striking “beginning with 72” and inserting
 3 the following: “beginning with 72 (or, in the case of a crit-
 4 ical care hospital, is assigned a North American Industry
 5 Classification System code beginning with 62)”.

6 (b) WAIVER OF AFFILIATION RULES.—Section
 7 7(a)(36)(D)(iv)(I) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
 8 636(a)(36)(D)(iv)(I)) is amended by striking “beginning
 9 with 72” and inserting the following: “beginning with 72
 10 (or, in the case of a critical care hospital, is assigned a
 11 North American Industry Classification System code be-
 12 ginning with 62)”.

13 (c) CRITICAL CARE HOSPITALS DEFINED.—Section
 14 7(a)(36)(D) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
 15 636(a)(36)(D)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 16 lowing:

17 “(ix) CRITICAL CARE HOSPITAL DE-
 18 FINED.—In this subparagraph, the term
 19 ‘critical care hospital’ means—

20 “(I) a hospital (as defined in sec-
 21 tion 1861(e) of the Social Security
 22 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(e))) that—

23 “(aa) is located in a county
 24 (or equivalent unit of local gov-
 25 ernment) in a rural area, as de-

1 fined in section 1886(d)(2)(D) of
2 such Act (42 U.S.C.
3 1395ww(d)(2)(D));

4 “(bb) is treated as being lo-
5 cated in a rural area pursuant to
6 section 1886(d)(8)(E) of such
7 Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1395ww(d)(8)(E)); or

9 “(cc) for the most recent
10 cost reporting period under sec-
11 tion 1886(d) of such Act (42
12 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)), received an
13 additional payment under section
14 1886(d)(5)(F) of such Act (42
15 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(5)(F)); and

16 “(II) a nonprofit or public crit-
17 ical access hospital, as defined in sec-
18 tion 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Secu-
19 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(mm)(1)).”.

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