

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Designating November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health Day”.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Ms. SMITH)  
submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Designating November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health  
Day”.

Whereas over 66,300,000 hardworking individuals in the  
United States live in rural communities;

Whereas individuals in the United States in rural areas live  
in pursuit of the common good and keep values of the  
United States alive by fostering a spirit of generosity and  
respect among neighbors;

Whereas rural health care providers and patients showcase a  
selfless and community-minded spirit;

Whereas rural areas in the United States are places of oppor-  
tunity for—

(1) mission-minded health professionals to provide individualized care to patients and entire communities; and

(2) fueling innovations in rural health infrastructure, quality, and delivery of health care;

Whereas rural health care providers are—

(1) uniquely positioned to provide value-based holistic care; and

(2) known and trusted by their patients;

Whereas rural residents tend to experience lower life expectancy and poorer health status due to structural, behavioral, and geographic factors;

Whereas rural residents face barriers to accessing health care due to a shortage of primary and specialized health care providers, lack of reliable transportation or transportation options, increased exposure to public health and occupational hazards, and higher rates of uninsured and underinsured individuals;

Whereas rural health facilities in the United States face systemic challenges, including clinician workforce shortages and lower volumes of services spread over fixed costs;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face have contributed to 153 rural hospital closures or hospital conversions since 2010;

Whereas 50 percent of rural hospitals in the United States are operating with negative margins and nearly 432 rural hospitals are vulnerable to closure, further demonstrating the need to accelerate efforts to reinforce the rural health safety net;

Whereas the systemic challenges rural health facilities face make it increasingly difficult for rural health care facilities to keep their doors open to serve patients;

Whereas National Rural Health Day was established to honor rural communities in the United States and the contributions and efforts of rural communities in addressing the unique challenges facing rural health care;

Whereas the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health has recognized National Rural Health Day to be the third Thursday of each November since 2011, in collaboration with partners such as the National Rural Health Association; and

Whereas National Rural Health Day will be recognized this year on November 20, 2025: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2           (1) designates November 20, 2025, as “National Rural Health Day”;

3           (2) recognizes and supports the goals and ideals  
4           of National Rural Health Day;

5           (3) celebrates rural health care providers and  
6           the millions of individuals in the United States that  
7           rural health care providers serve; and

8           (4) expresses a commitment to advancing poli-  
9           cies to improve health care accessibility and afford-  
10          ability in rural areas of the United States.  
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