

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1655

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the criteria for designation as a critical access hospital.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 1999

Ms. SNOWE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the criteria for designation as a critical access hospital.

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 “Rural Hospital Flexi-
5 bility Act of 1999”.

6 **SEC. 2. REVISION OF CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION AS A**
7 **CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL.**

8 (a) CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION.—Section
9 1820(c)(2)(B)(iii) (42 U.S.C. 1395i–4(c)(2)(B)(iii)) is
10 amended—

1 (1) by striking “to exceed 96 hours” and insert-
2 ing “to exceed, on average, 96 hours per patient”;

3 (2) by striking “, except” and all that follows
4 before the semicolon.

5 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
6 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of enactment
7 of this Act.

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