

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1763

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to health professional shortage areas.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 1993

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. THOMAS of Wyoming, Mr. SLATTERY, Mr. LANCASTER, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. GUNDERSON, and Ms. SNOWE) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce

---

## A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to 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 “Health Professional  
5       Shortage Area Amendments of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION IN CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION AS**  
2 **HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREA.**

3 (a) NUMBER OF ELDERLY INDIVIDUALS.—Section  
4 332(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.  
5 245e(b)(2)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-  
7 graph (C);

8 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-  
9 paragraph (D) and inserting “, and”; and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following subpara-  
11 graph:

12 “(E) 20 percent or more of the population  
13 being 65 years of age or older.”.

14 (b) RELEVANCE OF TRAVEL TIMES WITHIN FRON-  
15 TIER AREAS.—Section 332(a) of the Public Health Service  
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 245e(a)) is amended by adding at the end  
17 the following new paragraph:

18 “(4) With respect to meeting the criteria under  
19 paragraph (1)(A) for an area to be designated as a  
20 health professional shortage area, the Secretary  
21 shall, in the case of a frontier area, make the deter-  
22 mination of whether the frontier area is a rational  
23 area for the delivery of health services without re-  
24 gard to—

25 “(A) the travel time between population  
26 centers in the frontier area; or

1           “(B) the travel time to contiguous area re-  
2           sources in the frontier area.”.

3           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
4 this section shall take effect on October 1, 1993, or upon  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever occurs  
6 later.

7 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF ADDITIONAL PAYMENT UNDER MED-**  
8 **ICARE FOR PHYSICIANS’ SERVICES FUR-**  
9 **NISHED IN FORMER SHORTAGE AREAS.**

10          (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1833(m) of the Social Se-  
11 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(m)) is amended by striking  
12 “area,” and inserting “area (or, in the case of an area  
13 for which the designation as a health professional shortage  
14 area under such section is withdrawn, in the case of physi-  
15 cians’ services furnished to such an individual during the  
16 3-year period beginning on the effective date of the with-  
17 drawal of such designation),”.

18          (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
19 subsection (a) shall apply to physicians’ services furnished  
20 in an area for which the designation as a health profes-  
21 sional shortage area under section 332(a)(1)(A) of the  
22 Public Health Service Act is withdrawn on or after  
23 January 1, 1994.

○