

# H.R. 5141 Bipartisan MOBILE Health Care Act

Introduced by Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV), Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA), Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-CA), and Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC)

## The need:

- Across the country, 1 in 11 Americans including 400,000 veterans and 8.7 million children – rely on Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) for their health care.<sup>i,ii</sup>
- The FQHC program is leading the nation in driving quality improvement and reducing health care costs for America's taxpayers.
- While FQHCs have been highly successful in expanding quality health care nationwide, many small and rural communities do not have the population base to support full-time health centers or could be more effectively reached via mobile health units.

## What is the Health Center New Access Points (NAP) grant program?

- The Health Center NAP grant program run by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) – was designed to improve the health of the nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by expanding access to affordable, quality, and cost-effective primary health care services.
- NAP funding provides annual operational support for FQHCs' new service delivery sites for the provision of primary care services (i.e., new access points).<sup>iii</sup>
- Currently, the NAP program restricts existing FQHCs from using these grants to expand their services via mobile health units.

## What this bill does:

- This bill would allow FQHCs that are existing NAP grantees the flexibility to use their NAP grants to establish new, mobile health care delivery sites.
- The bill would also allow FQHCs that are not yet NAP grantees to apply for NAP funding to establish a new mobile delivery site, provided that they also use a portion of the funds to establish a permanent, full-time site.
- This commonsense flexibility allows FQHCs to expand care delivery in the manner best suited for their community, at no additional cost to the taxpayer.

## **Endorsements:**

- National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC)
- National Rural Health Association (NRHA)
- National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC)
- American Dental Association
- Nevada Primary Care Association (NPCA)

- Nevada Health Centers
- First Person Care Clinic (Nevada)
- North Carolina Community Health Center Association
- Cabarrus Rowan Community Health Center (North Carolina)
- Valley View Health Center (Washington)
- Cowlitz Family Health Center (Washington)
- <u>The Problem Solvers Caucus</u>
- <u>The New Democratic Coalition</u>

Companion legislation (S.958) is led by Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Susan Collins (R-ME) in the Senate.

- https://www.nachc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Nevada 21.pdf
- https://bphc.hrsa.gov/program-opportunities/new-access-points

https://bphc.hrsa.gov/about/healthcenterprogram/index.html