

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**S. 2169**

To require the development of a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended  
to be proposed by \_\_\_\_\_

Viz:

1       Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-  
2       lowing:

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Rural Hospital Cyber-  
5       security Enhancement Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1) **AGENCY.**—The term “agency” has the  
9       meaning given the term in section 551 of title 5,  
10      United States Code.

1           (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
2       GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
3       gress” means—

4                   (A) the Committee on Health, Education,  
5       Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

6                   (B) the Committee on Finance of the Sen-  
7       ate;

8                   (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
9       merce of the House of Representatives; and

10                  (D) the Committee on Ways and Means of  
11       the House of Representatives.

12           (3) GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION.—The term “geo-  
13       graphic division” means a geographic division that is  
14       among the 9 geographic divisions determined by the  
15       Bureau of the Census.

16           (4) RURAL HOSPITAL.—The term “rural hos-  
17       pital” means—

18                   (A) a subsection (d) hospital (as defined in  
19       section 1886(d)(1)(B) of the Social Security  
20       Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(1)(B))) that—

21                           (i) is located in a rural area (as de-  
22       fined in paragraph (2)(D) of section  
23       1886(d) of such Act);

1 (ii) is treated as being located in a  
2 rural area pursuant to paragraph (8)(E) of  
3 such section 1886(d); or

4 (iii) is located in a rural census tract  
5 of a metropolitan statistical area (as deter-  
6 mined under the most recent modification  
7 of the Goldsmith Modification, originally  
8 published in the Federal Register on Feb-  
9 ruary 27, 1992 (57 Fed. Reg. 6725));

10 (B) a critical access hospital (as defined in  
11 section 1861(mm)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
12 1395x(mm)(1)));

13 (C) a sole community hospital (as defined  
14 in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii) of such Act (42  
15 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(5)(D)(iii)));

16 (D) a medicare-dependent, small rural hos-  
17 pital (as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(G)(iv) of  
18 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395(ww)(d)(5)(G)(iv)));

19 (E) a low-volume hospital (as defined in  
20 section 1886(d)(12)(C) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
21 1395ww(d)(12)(C))); or

22 (F) a rural emergency hospital (as defined  
23 in section 1861(kkk)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
24 1395x(kkk)(2))).

1           (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2           the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

3   **SEC. 3. RURAL HOSPITAL CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE**  
4           **DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
6           date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop  
7           and transmit to the appropriate committees of Congress  
8           a comprehensive rural hospital cybersecurity workforce de-  
9           velopment strategy to address the growing need for skilled  
10          cybersecurity professionals in rural hospitals.

11          (b) CONSULTATION.—

12           (1) AGENCIES.—In carrying out subsection (a),  
13          the Secretary shall consult with the Director of the  
14          Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency,  
15          the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Labor,  
16          the National Cyber Director, and any other appro-  
17          priate head of an agency.

18           (2) PROVIDERS.—In carrying out subsection  
19          (a), the Secretary shall consult with not fewer than  
20          2 representatives of rural health care providers from  
21          each geographic division in the United States.

22          (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—The rural hospital cybersecu-  
23          rity workforce development strategy developed under sub-  
24          section (a) shall, at a minimum, consider the following  
25          components:

1           (1) Partnerships between rural hospitals, hos-  
2           pitals that are not rural hospitals as defined in sec-  
3           tion 2(4), educational institutions, and private non-  
4           profit or for-profit entities, to develop, promote, and  
5           expand the rural hospital cybersecurity workforce,  
6           including through education and training programs  
7           tailored to the needs of rural hospitals.

8           (2) The development of a cybersecurity cur-  
9           riculum and teaching resources that focus on teach-  
10          ing technical skills and abilities related to cybersecu-  
11          rity in rural hospitals for use in community colleges,  
12          vocational schools, and other educational institutions  
13          located in rural areas.

14          (3) Identification of—

15                (A) cybersecurity workforce challenges for  
16                rural hospitals; and

17                (B) common practices to mitigate the chal-  
18                lenges described in subparagraph (A).

19          (d) ANNUAL BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days  
20          after the date on which the first full fiscal year ends fol-  
21          lowing the date on which the Secretary transmits the rural  
22          hospital cybersecurity workforce development strategy de-  
23          veloped under subsection (a), and not later than 60 days  
24          after the date on which each fiscal year thereafter ends,  
25          the Secretary shall provide a briefing to the appropriate

1 committees of Congress that includes, at a minimum, in-  
2 formation relating to—

3 (1) updates to the rural hospital cybersecurity  
4 workforce development strategy, as appropriate;

5 (2) any programs or initiatives established pur-  
6 suant to the rural hospital cybersecurity workforce  
7 development strategy, and the number of individuals  
8 trained or educated through such programs or initia-  
9 tives; and

10 (3) the effectiveness of the rural hospital cyber-  
11 security workforce development strategy in address-  
12 ing the need for skilled cybersecurity professionals in  
13 rural hospitals.

14 **SEC. 4. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR RURAL HOS-**  
15 **PITALS.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
17 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish  
18 on the website of the Department of Health and Human  
19 Services and make available through other appropriate  
20 means, at no cost, instructional materials for rural hos-  
21 pitals that can be used to train staff on fundamental cy-  
22 bersecurity efforts.

23 (b) DUTIES.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Sec-  
24 retary shall—

1           (1) consult with appropriate heads of agencies,  
2           experts in cybersecurity education, and rural health  
3           care experts;

4           (2) identify existing cybersecurity instructional  
5           materials that can be adapted for use in rural hos-  
6           pitals and develop new materials as needed; and

7           (3) conduct an awareness campaign to promote  
8           the materials available to rural hospitals developed  
9           under subsection (a).

10 **SEC. 5. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.**

11       No additional funds are authorized to be appro-  
12       priated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.