



(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a floor on the work geographic index for physicians' services furnished in Hawaii.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. TOKUDA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a floor on the work geographic index for physicians' services furnished in Hawaii.

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 "Protecting Access To
5 Care in Hawaii Act" or the "PATCH Act".

1 **SEC. 2. FLOOR ON WORK GEOGRAPHIC INDEX FOR PHYSI-**
2 **CIANS' SERVICES FURNISHED IN HAWAII.**

3 Section 1848(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
4 1395w-4(e)) is amended—

5 (1) in paragraph (1)(A), in the matter pre-
6 ceding clause (i), by striking “and (I)” and inserting
7 “(I), and (J)”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 paragraph:

10 “(J) FLOOR ON WORK GEOGRAPHIC INDEX
11 FOR SERVICES FURNISHED IN HAWAII.—For
12 purposes of payment for services furnished in
13 Hawaii on or after January 1, 2026, after cal-
14 culating the work geographic index in subpara-
15 graph (A)(iii), the Secretary shall increase the
16 work geographic index to 1.5 if such index
17 would otherwise be less than 1.5. The preceding
18 sentence shall not be applied in a budget neu-
19 tral manner.”.