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Rural Health Action Alliance supports Rural Health Equity Act

On National Rural Health Day, the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) [has joined](#) a group consisting of 15 members of the Rural Health Action Alliance (RHAA) to urge Congress to consider the Rural Health Equity Act ([H.R. 5848](#) & [S. 3149](#)).

Created by Rep. Donald McEachin (D-Va.) and Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.), the legislation would create an Office of Rural Health within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and address the unique health care challenges and inequities faced by rural communities. This will give the CDC more discretion and resources to analyze, study, and address disparities facing rural populations.

RHAA is a coalition of health care providers and facilities providing high-quality, evidence-based care to millions of Americans, particularly those living and working in rural and underserved communities. RHAA was created in 2020 when COVID-19 was ravaging the nation. A year later, infections and deaths are declining in rural communities, although rates remain higher in rural areas than in metropolitan ones. RHAA remains committed to advancing long-term solutions, including encouraging vaccination, expanding telehealth, and ensuring rural providers receive equitable resources.

“NRHA is excited to show our support for the Rural Health Equity Act, which offers a long-term solution to help address ongoing rural health disparities that have grown during the pandemic,” says NRHA CEO Alan Morgan. “As a founding member of the Rural Health Action Alliance, NRHA will continue to fight for rural health equity today and all year.”

About NRHA

NRHA is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and well-being of rural Americans and provide leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education, and research. NRHA’s membership is made up of diverse individuals and organizations from across the country, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.