

SENATE RESOLUTION 38

(By Senators Takubo, Rucker, and Jeffries)

[Introduced February 13, 2026]

1 Designating February 16, 2026, as Rural Health Day at the Capitol.

2 Whereas, The mission of the West Virginia Rural Health Association is to unite people,
3 communities, and organizations to strengthen rural health in West Virginia by empowering all
4 West Virginians to advance their quality of life, well-being, and access to excellence in rural health
5 care; and

6 Whereas, West Virginia is one of the most rural states in America; and

7 Whereas, West Virginia’s rural health facilities have remained essential to West Virginia’s
8 healthcare system; and

9 Whereas, Hundreds of thousands of West Virginians choose to live and work in rural
10 communities; and

11 Whereas, Rural Health Day was established to emphasize the importance of rural
12 hospitals, community health centers, county health departments, local free clinics, hospice care
13 agencies, emergency medical service providers, and other health care providers. Their obligation
14 is to serve the most rural areas of West Virginia and to recognize the efforts and contributions of
15 these entities to address the unique challenges in rural health care; therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Senate:*

17 That the Senate hereby designates February 16, 2026, as Rural Health Day at the Capitol;
18 and, be it

19 *Further Resolved,* That the Senate acknowledges the substantial efforts of these rural
20 health care providers to overcome the health care barriers faced by West Virginians. Health care

1 providers work to improve patient outcomes, patient experience, and to decrease the costs of
2 care; and, be it

3 *Further Resolved*, That the Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this resolution to
4 the West Virginia Rural Health Association.