# Peer Review Plan

**Preliminary Title:** Health Care Access Among the Self-Employed in Nonmetropolitan Counties: Report to Congress

**Type of Report**
- ERR, EIB, EB, TB, SOR,
- **[X]** Influential Scientific Information

**Agency:**
- Economic Research Service
- USDA
- **[ ]** Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

**Agency Contact:**
- Kelly Maguire, kelly.b.maguire@usda.gov

**Subject of Review:**
House Report 116-107 accompanying H.R. 1865 directed the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service to conduct a study on access to affordable, Affordable Care Act11 compliant, high quality health care for individuals and their families who are self-employed on farms or in other small, locally-owned and family-owned businesses in rural communities. Access to health care involves affordability, which is often tied to health insurance coverage, as well as proximity to health care providers and facilities. This report describes the insurance coverage and costs of self-employed individuals and their families and households in nonmetro counties in 2018, with a focus on farm households that were covered by health insurance in 2015. It also describes the geographic distribution of medical facilities and providers and the level of services available in 2017. How the coronavirus pandemic affected health care access for self-employed nonmetro Americans is also presented.

**Purpose of Review:**
The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

**Type of Review:**
- **[ ]** Panel Review
- **[X]** Individual Reviewers
- **[ ]** Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

**Timing of Review (Est.):**
- **Start:** 01/15/2021
- **Completed:** 05/07/2021
- **Withdrawn:** XX/XX/XX

**Number of Reviewers:**
- **[X]** 3 or fewer
- **[ ]** 4 to 10
- **[ ]** More than 10

**Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review:**
- Economists

**Reviewers selected by:**
- **[X]** Agency
- **[ ]** Designated Outside Organization

**Organization’s Name:**

**Opportunities for Public Comment?**
- **[ ]** Yes
- **[X]** No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

**How:**
- **When:**

**Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments?**
- **[ ]** Yes
- **[X]** No

**Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel?**
- **[ ]** Yes
- **[X]** No