

# Rounds tips Senate Finance Committee for health care AI

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Sen. [Mike Rounds](#) (R-S.D.) proposed Wednesday that the Senate Finance Committee look at using Medicare and Medicaid programs to fund AI innovations in health care, as part of [a new framework](#) that Senate leaders on AI are creating for Congress.

“If you're looking at how health care works, the Finance Committee might very well be an area where they're going to take a look at different approaches about how you pay for these innovations and so forth through Medicare and Medicaid,” Rounds said at an Axios event in Washington.

**Why it matters:** Rounds’ proposal for funding AI innovation in health care through federal health insurance programs is one of the first concrete ideas for legislation to emerge from the series of “AI Insight Forums” held in the Senate last year.

The meetings were organized by Senate Majority Leader [Chuck Schumer](#) in partnership with Rounds, Sen. [Todd Young](#) (R-Ind.) and Sen. [Martin Heinrich](#) (D-N.M.), a working group also known as the Gang of Four.

**What’s next:** Rounds said he spoke to Republican lawmakers on the Senate Finance committee on Wednesday and that the Democratic members of his group will be doing the same. He also highlighted privacy protections for user data as a prerequisite for rolling out any legislation pertaining to AI in health care.

On Tuesday, Rounds said he and his colleagues plan to issue a report on possible AI legislation by the “end of March,” although other members of the group did not confirm.

*Brendan Bordelon contributed to this report.*