

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 999

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

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 “Chiropractic Health  
5       Parity for Military Beneficiaries Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CARE FOR RETIREES, DE-**  
2 **PENDENTS, AND SURVIVORS.**

3 (a) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than August 31,  
4 2005, the Secretary of Defense shall complete develop-  
5 ment of a plan to provide chiropractic health care services  
6 and benefits, as a permanent part of the TRICARE pro-  
7 gram, for covered beneficiaries.

8 (b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall require  
9 that a contract entered into under section 1097 of title  
10 10, United States Code, for the delivery of health care  
11 services shall—

12 (1) include the delivery of chiropractic services;

13 (2) require that chiropractic services may be  
14 provided only by a doctor of chiropractic; and

15 (3) provide that a covered beneficiary may se-  
16 lect and have direct access to a doctor of chiro-  
17 practic without referral by another health practi-  
18 tioner.

19 (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—The plan developed  
20 under subsection (a) shall provide for implementation of  
21 the plan to begin no later than January 31, 2006.

22 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

24 (1) The term “chiropractic services”—

25 (A) includes diagnosis (including by diag-  
26 nostic X-ray tests), evaluation and manage-

1           ment, and therapeutic services for the treat-  
2           ment of a patient’s health condition, including  
3           neuromusculoskeletal conditions and the sub-  
4           luxation complex, and such other services deter-  
5           mined appropriate by the Secretary and as au-  
6           thorized under State law; and

7                   (B) does not include the use of drugs or  
8           surgery.

9           (2) The term “covered beneficiary” has the  
10          meaning provided by section 1072(5) of title 10,  
11          United States Code.

12          (3) The term “doctor of chiropractic” means  
13          only a doctor of chiropractic who is licensed as a  
14          doctor of chiropractic, chiropractic physician, or chi-  
15          ropractor by a State, the District of Columbia, or a  
16          territory or possession of the United States.

17          (4) The term “TRICARE program” has the  
18          meaning provided by section 1072(7) of title 10,  
19          United States Code.

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