

## Calendar No. 837

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION**H. R. 2818**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 2008

Received; read twice and placed on the calendar

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**AN ACT**

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the establishment of epilepsy centers of excellence in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Veterans’ Epilepsy  
5 Treatment Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. EPILEPSY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.**

7       (a) REQUIREMENT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF EPI-  
8 LEPSY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—Subchapter II of  
9 chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, is amended  
10 by adding at the end the following new section:

1 **“§ 7330A. Epilepsy centers of excellence**

2 “(a) DESIGNATION OF CENTERS.—Not later than  
3 120 days after the date of enactment of this section, the  
4 Secretary shall designate an epilepsy center of excellence  
5 at each of the 5 centers designated under section 7327.

6 “(b) EXPERT CLINICAL AND RESEARCH STAFF.—  
7 Each center designated under subsection (a) shall employ  
8 such expert clinical and research staff, including board  
9 certified neurologists and neurosurgeons, as may be nec-  
10 essary to ensure that such center is capable of serving as  
11 a center of excellence in research, education, and clinical  
12 care activities in the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy,  
13 including post-traumatic epilepsy.

14 “(c) REQUIREMENTS AND OPERATION OF CEN-  
15 TERS.—Each center designated under subsection (a) shall  
16 function as a center for—

17 “(1) research on the diagnosis, treatment, and  
18 long-term effects of epilepsy, including epilepsy de-  
19 veloped as a result of combat, in order to support  
20 the provision of services for such diagnosis and  
21 treatment in accordance with the most current infor-  
22 mation on epilepsy;

23 “(2) the development of evidence-based meth-  
24 odologies for treating individuals with epilepsy;

25 “(3) the continuous and consistent coordination  
26 of care from the point of referral throughout the di-

1 agnostic and treatment process and ongoing follow-  
2 up after return to home and community;

3 “(4) the development of a national system of  
4 coordinated care for veterans with epilepsy, includ-  
5 ing the development and maintenance of a national  
6 network of Department health care personnel with  
7 an interest and expertise in the care and treatment  
8 of epilepsy and the establishment of a referral sys-  
9 tem and procedure within each Veterans Integrated  
10 Service Network;

11 “(5) assist in the expansion, where appropriate,  
12 of the utilization of telehealth technology, including  
13 exploring the use of such technology to develop,  
14 transmit, monitor, and review neurological diag-  
15 nostic tests and other applicable uses of telehealth  
16 technology for the diagnosis, care, and treatment of  
17 veterans with epilepsy; and

18 “(6) the dissemination of educational materials  
19 and research regarding diagnosis, care, and treat-  
20 ment of epilepsy, throughout the Department.

21 “(d) ADMINISTRATION.—In order to assist the Sec-  
22 retary in carrying out this section, the Secretary shall des-  
23 ignate a national coordinator for epilepsy programs who  
24 shall report to the official responsible for neurology at the  
25 Veterans Health Administration and shall—





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