

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4915

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand access to hospital care for veterans in urban areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2007

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio (for herself, Mr. HOBSON, and Mr. TIBERI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to expand access to hospital care for veterans in urban areas, and for other purposes.

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’ Access to
5 Local Options for Recovery Act of 2007” or the “VALOR
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. PROVISION OF IN-PATIENT CARE TO URBAN VET-**
8 **ERANS.**

9 Section 1703 of title 38, United States Code, is
10 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “When De-
2 partment facilities” and inserting “Subject to sub-
3 section (e), when Department facilities”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(e)(1) Subject to the availability of appropriations,
6 the Secretary may seek to enter into a contract with a
7 non-Department facility located in an eligible metropolitan
8 statistical area to provide hospital care and medical serv-
9 ices to veterans. Under such contract, the non-Department
10 facility shall provide hospital care and medical services for
11 which the veteran seeking such services is eligible under
12 section 1710 of this title.

13 “(2) The Secretary shall ensure that the contract
14 under paragraph (1) provides for payment by the Sec-
15 retary to the non-Department facility. Such payment shall
16 be—

17 “(A) for hospital care and medical services pro-
18 vided to a veteran by the non-Department facility,
19 including payment for—

20 “(i) emergency care;

21 “(ii) non-emergency hospital care services;

22 and

23 “(iii) inpatient medical services; and

1 “(B) shall be limited to payment for hospital
2 care and medical services for which the veteran is el-
3 igible under section 1710 of this title.

4 “(3) For the purposes of this subsection—

5 “(A) the term ‘inpatient medical services’
6 means medical services provided to an inpatient of
7 a hospital; and

8 “(B) the term ‘eligible metropolitan statistical
9 area’ means a metropolitan statistical area (as de-
10 fined by the Director of the Office of Budget and
11 Management) with—

12 “(i) a total civilian population of at least
13 1,000,000;

14 “(ii) a total veteran population of at least
15 90,000; and

16 “(iii) no Department facility capable of
17 providing hospital care services or inpatient
18 medical services.”.

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