

110TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6557

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt from the critical access hospital inpatient bed limitation the number of beds provided for certain veterans.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 21, 2008

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (for himself, Mr. TANNER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. HERGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt from the critical access hospital inpatient bed limitation the number of beds provided for certain veterans.

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 Critical Ac-
5 cess Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITAL INPATIENT BED LIM-**
2 **TATION EXEMPTION FOR BEDS PROVIDED TO**
3 **CERTAIN VETERANS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1820(c) of the Social Se-
5 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–4(c)) is amended by adding
6 at the end the following new paragraph:

7 “(3) **EXEMPTION FROM BED LIMITATION.**—For
8 purposes of this section, no acute care inpatient bed
9 shall be counted against any numerical limitation
10 specified under this section for such a bed (or for in-
11 patient bed days with respect to such a bed) if the
12 bed is provided for an individual who is a veteran
13 and the Department of Veterans Affairs referred the
14 individual for care in the hospital or is coordinating
15 such care with other care being provided by such
16 Department.”.

17 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by
18 subsection (a) shall apply to cost reporting periods begin-
19 ning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○