

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4977

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs complies with requirements relating to scheduling veterans for health care appointments, to improve the uniform application of directives of the Department, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 18, 2016

Mrs. WALORSKI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs complies with requirements relating to scheduling veterans for health care appointments, to improve the uniform application of directives of the Department, 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 “VA Scheduling Ac-
5 countability Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS.**

2 (a) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans
4 Affairs shall ensure that the director of each medical
5 facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs annu-
6 ally certifies to the Secretary that the medical facil-
7 ity is in full compliance with all provisions of law
8 and regulations relating to scheduling appointments
9 for veterans to receive hospital care and medical
10 services, including pursuant to Veterans Health Ad-
11 ministration Directive 2010–027, or any successor
12 directive.

13 (2) PROHIBITION ON WAIVER.—The Secretary
14 may not waive any provision of the laws or regula-
15 tions described in paragraph (1) for a medical facil-
16 ity of the Department if such provision otherwise ap-
17 plies to the medical facility.

18 (b) EXPLANATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE.—If a direc-
19 tor of a medical facility of the Department does not make
20 a certification under subsection (a)(1) for any year, the
21 director shall submit to the Secretary a report con-
22 taining—

23 (1) an explanation of why the director is unable
24 to make such certification; and

1 (2) a description of the actions the director is
2 taking to ensure full compliance with the laws and
3 regulations described in such subsection.

4 (c) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall annually
5 submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the
6 House of Representatives and the Senate a report con-
7 taining, with respect to the year covered by the report—

8 (1) a list of each medical facility of the Depart-
9 ment for which a certification was made under sub-
10 section (a)(1); and

11 (2) a list of each medical facility of the Depart-
12 ment for which such a certification was not made,
13 including a copy of each report submitted to the
14 Secretary under subsection (b).

15 **SEC. 3. UNIFORM APPLICATION OF DIRECTIVES AND POLI-**
16 **CIES OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
17 **FAIRS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs
19 shall ensure that the directives and policies of the Depart-
20 ment of Veterans Affairs apply to each office or facility
21 of the Department in a uniform manner.

22 (b) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary does not uni-
23 formly apply the directives and policies of the Department
24 pursuant to subsection (a), including by waiving such a
25 directive or policy with respect to an office, facility, or ele-

1 ment of the Department, the Secretary shall notify the
2 Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives and the Senate of such nonuniform applica-
4 tion, including an explanation for the nonuniform applica-
5 tion.

○