

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 1463

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the distance requirement for expanded availability of hospital care and medical services for veterans through the use of agreements with non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 22, 2015

Mr. MORAN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. HOEVEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed

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## A BILL

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to modify the distance requirement for expanded availability of hospital care and medical services for veterans through the use of agreements with non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities.

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 “Access to Community  
5 Care for Veterans Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF DISTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR**  
2 **EXPANDED AVAILABILITY OF HOSPITAL**  
3 **CARE AND MEDICAL SERVICES FOR VET-**  
4 **ERANS THROUGH THE USE OF AGREEMENTS**  
5 **WITH NON-DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**  
6 **FAIRS ENTITIES.**

7 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subparagraph (B) of section  
8 101(b)(2) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Account-  
9 ability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701  
10 note) is amended to read as follows:

11 “(B) resides more than 40 miles (cal-  
12 culated based on distance traveled) from a med-  
13 ical facility of the Department, including a com-  
14 munity-based outpatient clinic, that is the clos-  
15 est such medical facility to the residence of the  
16 veteran that is able to provide to the veteran  
17 the hospital care or medical services that the  
18 veteran needs;”.

19 (b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by  
20 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 60 days  
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply  
22 with respect to care and services provided under section  
23 101 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability  
24 Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C. 1701 note)  
25 on and after such effective date.

26 (c) **EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS.**—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by  
2 subsection (a) is designated as an emergency re-  
3 quirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory  
4 Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

5           (2) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate,  
6 the amendment made by subsection (a) is designated  
7 as an emergency requirement pursuant to section  
8 403(a) of S. Con. Res. 13 (111th Congress), the  
9 concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year  
10 2010.

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