

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4973

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama (for himself and Mr. LOEBSACK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

---

## A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

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 “Chiropractic Health  
5 Parity for Military Beneficiaries Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CARE FOR RETIREES, DE-**  
2 **PENDENTS, AND SURVIVORS.**

3 (a) **PLAN REQUIRED.**—Not later than 30 days after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of  
5 Defense shall complete development of a plan to provide  
6 chiropractic health care services and benefits, as a perma-  
7 nent part of the TRICARE program, for covered bene-  
8 ficiaries.

9 (b) **CONTENTS OF PLAN.**—The plan shall require  
10 that a contract entered into under section 1097 of title  
11 10, United States Code, for the delivery of health care  
12 services shall—

13 (1) include the delivery of chiropractic services;

14 (2) require that chiropractic services may be  
15 provided only by a doctor of chiropractic; and

16 (3) provide that a covered beneficiary may se-  
17 lect and have direct access to a doctor of chiro-  
18 practice without referral by another health practi-  
19 tioner.

20 (c) **IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.**—The plan developed  
21 under subsection (a) shall provide for implementation of  
22 the plan to begin not later than 60 days after the date  
23 on which the plan is completed.

24 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

25 In this Act:

26 (1) The term “chiropractic services”—

1 (A) includes diagnosis (including by diag-  
2 nostic x-ray tests), evaluation and management,  
3 and therapeutic services for the treatment of a  
4 patient's health condition, including neuromus-  
5 culoskeletal conditions and the subluxation com-  
6 plex, and such other services determined appro-  
7 priate by the Secretary and as authorized under  
8 State law; and

9 (B) does not include the use of drugs or  
10 surgery.

11 (2) The term "covered beneficiary" has the  
12 meaning provided by section 1072(5) of title 10,  
13 United States Code.

14 (3) The term "doctor of chiropractic" means  
15 only a doctor of chiropractic who is licensed as a  
16 doctor of chiropractic, chiropractic physician, or chi-  
17 ropractor by a State, the District of Columbia, or a  
18 territory or possession of the United States.

19 (4) The term "TRICARE program" has the  
20 meaning provided by section 1072(7) of title 10,  
21 United States Code.

○