

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5693

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2018

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

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 “Long-Term Care Vet-
5 erans Choice Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CONTRACT AU-**
2 **THORITY FOR PLACEMENT OF VETERANS IN**
3 **NON-DEPARTMENT MEDICAL FOSTER HOMES.**

4 (a) AUTHORITY.—Section 1720 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new subsection:

7 “(h)(1) During the three-year period beginning on
8 October 1, 2019, and subject to paragraph (2), at the re-
9 quest of a veteran for whom the Secretary is required to
10 provide nursing home care under section 1710A of this
11 title, the Secretary may place the veteran in a medical fos-
12 ter home that meets Department standards, at the ex-
13 pense of the United States, pursuant to a contract or
14 agreement entered into between the Secretary and the
15 medical foster home for such purpose. A veteran who is
16 placed in a medical foster home under this subsection shall
17 agree, as a condition of such placement, to accept home
18 health services furnished by the Secretary under section
19 1717 of this title.

20 “(2) Not more than 900 veterans placed in a medical
21 foster home, whether placed before or after the date of
22 the enactment of this subsection, may have their care cov-
23 ered at the expense of the United States under subsection
24 (a).

25 “(3) In this subsection, the term ‘medical foster
26 home’ means a home designed to provide non-institutional,

1 long-term, supportive care for veterans who are unable to
2 live independently and prefer a family setting.”.

3 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (h) of title 38,
4 United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take
5 effect on October 1, 2019.

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