

## Union Calendar No. 807

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6066

**[Report No. 115–1034]**

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the productivity of the management of Department of Veterans Affairs health care, and for other purposes.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2018

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

NOVEMBER 16, 2018

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole  
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 8, 2018]

# **A BILL**

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the productivity of the management of Department of Veterans Affairs health care, 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. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH**  
4 **CARE PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT.**

5       *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 17 of title*  
6 *38, United States Code, is amended by inserting after sec-*  
7 *tion 1705A the following new section:*

8 **“§ 1705B. Management of health care: productivity**

9       *“(a) RELATIVE VALUE UNIT TRACKING.—The Sec-*  
10 *retary shall track relative value units for all Department*  
11 *providers.*

12       *“(b) CLINICAL PROCEDURE CODING TRAINING.—If the*  
13 *coding accuracy of a Department provider within a clinical*  
14 *area of responsibility of the provider falls below the min-*  
15 *imum threshold set by the Secretary, the Secretary shall re-*  
16 *quire the Department provider to attend training on clin-*  
17 *ical procedure coding.*

18       *“(c) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—(1) The Secretary*  
19 *shall establish for each Department facility—*

20           *“(A) in accordance with paragraph (2), stand-*  
21 *ardized performance standards based on nationally*  
22 *recognized relative value unit production standards*  
23 *applicable to each specific profession in order to*  
24 *evaluate clinical productivity at the provider and fa-*  
25 *cility level;*

1           “(B) remediation plans to address low clinical  
2           productivity and clinical inefficiency; and

3           “(C) an ongoing process to systematically review  
4           the content, implementation, and outcome of the plans  
5           developed under subparagraph (B).

6           “(2) In establishing the performance standards under  
7           paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary—

8           “(A) may incorporate values-based productivity  
9           models and may incorporate other productivity meas-  
10          ures and models determined appropriate by the Sec-  
11          retary; and

12          “(B) shall take into account non-clinical duties,  
13          including with respect to training and research;

14          “(C) shall take into account factors that impede  
15          productivity and efficiency and, in developing reme-  
16          diation plans under paragraph (1)(B), shall incor-  
17          porate action plans to address such factors.

18          “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19          “(1) The term ‘Department provider’ means an  
20          employee of the Department who has been appointed  
21          to the Veterans Health Administration as a physi-  
22          cian, a dentist, an optometrist, a podiatrist, a chiro-  
23          practor, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a  
24          physician’s assistant acting as an independent pro-  
25          vider.

1           “(2) *The term ‘relative value unit’ means a unit*  
2           *for measuring workload by determining the time,*  
3           *mental effort and judgment, technical skill, physical*  
4           *effort, and stress involved in delivering a service.”.*

5           **(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—*The table of sections at*  
6           *the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after*  
7           *the item relating to section 1705A the following new item:*  
          *“1705B. Management of health care: productivity.”.*

8           **(c) REPORT.**—*Not later than one year after the date*  
9           *of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Af-*  
10          *fairs shall submit to Congress a report on the implementa-*  
11          *tion of section 1705B of title 38, United States Code, as*  
12          *added by subsection (a). Such report shall include, for each*  
13          *professional category of Department of Veterans Affairs*  
14          *providers, the relative value unit of such category of pro-*  
15          *viders at the national, Veterans Integrated Service Network,*  
16          *and facility levels.*

17          **(d) COMPREHENSIVE STAFFING MODELS.**—*Not later*  
18          *than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,*  
19          *the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall develop comprehen-*  
20          *sive staffing models for all Department of Veterans Affairs*  
21          *medical centers.*

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