

Union Calendar No. 191

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 95

[Report No. 115–266]

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain medical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Ms. BROWNLEY of California (for herself, Mr. WALZ, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

JULY 28, 2017

Additional sponsors: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VELA, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. KIND

JULY 28, 2017

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 *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 3, 2017]

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain medical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Veterans’ Access to Child*
 5 *Care Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS RECEIV-**
 7 **ING MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND OTHER IN-**
 8 **TENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED**
 9 **BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

10 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 17 of*
 11 *title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the*
 12 *end the following new section:*

13 **“§ 1730B. Child care assistance for veterans receiving**
 14 **mental health care and other intensive**
 15 **health care services**

16 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide child*
 17 *care assistance to an eligible veteran for any period that*
 18 *the veteran—*

19 *“(1) receives covered health care services at a fa-*
 20 *cility of the Department; and*

21 *“(2) is required travel to and return from such*
 22 *facility for the receipt of such health care services.*

23 *“(b) CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE.—(1) Child care assist-*
 24 *ance provided under this section may include any of the*
 25 *following:*

1 “(A) *A stipend for the payment of child care of-*
 2 *fered by a licensed child care center (either directly*
 3 *or through a voucher program) which shall be, to the*
 4 *extent practicable, modeled after the Department of*
 5 *Veterans Affairs Child Care Subsidy Program estab-*
 6 *lished pursuant to section 590 of title 40.*

7 “(B) *Direct provision of child care at an on-site*
 8 *facility of the Department.*

9 “(C) *A payment made directly to a private child*
 10 *care agency.*

11 “(D) *A collaboration with a facility or program*
 12 *of another Federal department or agency.*

13 “(E) *Such other form of assistance as the Sec-*
 14 *retary considers appropriate.*

15 “(2) *In the case that child care assistance under this*
 16 *section is provided as a stipend under paragraph (1)(A),*
 17 *such stipend shall cover the full cost of such child care.*

18 “(c) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

19 “(1) *The term ‘eligible veteran’ means a veteran*
 20 *who—*

21 “(A) *is the primary caretaker of a child or*
 22 *children; and*

23 “(B) *is—*

24 “(i) *receiving covered health care serv-*
 25 *ices from the Department; or*

1 “(ii) in need of covered health care
 2 services, and but for lack of child care serv-
 3 ices, would receive such covered health care
 4 services from the Department.

5 “(2) The term ‘covered health care services’
 6 means—

7 “(A) regular mental health care services;

8 “(B) intensive mental health care services;

9 or

10 “(C) such other intensive health care serv-
 11 ices that the Secretary determines that provision
 12 of assistance to the veteran to obtain child care
 13 would improve access to such health care services
 14 by the veteran.”.

15 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at
 16 the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after
 17 the item relating to section 1730A the following new item:

 “1730B. Child care assistance for veterans receiving mental health care and other
 intensive health care services.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF PEN-**
 2 **SION FURNISHED BY DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
 3 **ERANS AFFAIRS FOR CERTAIN VETERANS**
 4 **COVERED BY MEDICAID PLANS FOR SERVICES**
 5 **FURNISHED BY NURSING FACILITIES.**

6 *Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code, is*
 7 *amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and inserting*
 8 *“September 30, 2026”.*

9 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT FOR COLLECTION OF**
 10 **FEEES FOR HOUSING LOANS GUARANTEED BY**
 11 **SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

12 *Section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code, is*
 13 *amended—*

14 *(1) in subparagraph (A)—*

15 *(A) in clause (iii), by striking “September*
 16 *30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;*
 17 *and*

18 *(B) in clause (iv), by striking “September*
 19 *30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;*

20 *(2) in subparagraph (B)—*

21 *(A) in clause (i), by striking “September*
 22 *30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;*
 23 *and*

24 *(B) in clause (ii), by striking “September*
 25 *30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;*

26 *(3) in subparagraph (C)—*

1 (A) in clause (i), by striking “September
2 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
3 and

4 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “September
5 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
6 and

7 (4) in subparagraph (D)—

8 (A) in clause (i), by striking “September
9 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
10 and

11 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “September
12 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”.

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