

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3737

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 11, 2018

Mr. CASSIDY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor program using multiple prime vendors, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Affairs Med-
5 ical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLIES UNDER MEDICAL**
7 **SURGICAL PRIME VENDOR PROGRAM.**

8 (a) VENDORS.—In procuring certain medical, sur-
9 gical, and dental supplies or laboratory supplies for med-
10 ical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the

1 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out the Medical
2 Surgical Prime Vendor program, or a successor program,
3 in a manner that—

4 (1) requires the Secretary to award contracts to
5 multiple regional prime vendors instead of a single
6 nationwide prime vendor; and

7 (2) prohibits a prime vendor from solely design-
8 ing the formulary of such supplies.

9 (b) CLINICALLY DRIVEN SOURCING.—

10 (1) EXPERTISE.—In carrying out the formulary
11 of supplies under the Medical Surgical Prime Vendor
12 program, or a successor program, the Secretary shall
13 ensure that each employee of the Department of
14 Veterans Affairs who conducts formulary analyses or
15 makes decisions with respect to including items on
16 the formulary has medical expertise relevant to the
17 items for which the employee conducts such analyses
18 or makes such decisions.

19 (2) LISTS.—Not later than 30 days after the
20 date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly
21 thereafter with respect to any updates, the Secretary
22 shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs
23 of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Af-
24 fairs of the House of Representatives a list of each
25 employee described in paragraph (1) and the rel-

1 evant medical expertise of the employee, listed by
2 the categories of items in the formulary described in
3 such paragraph.

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