

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2004

To amend title 5, United States Code, to continue supplemental dental and vision benefits and long-term care insurance coverage for Federal employees affected by a Government shutdown, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MEADOWS, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. TAYLOR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to continue supplemental dental and vision benefits and long-term care insurance coverage for Federal employees affected by a Government shutdown, 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 “Ensuring FEDVIP
5 and FLTCIP Coverage During Shutdowns Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTINUING SUPPLEMENTAL DENTAL AND VISION**
2 **BENEFITS AND LONG-TERM CARE INSUR-**
3 **ANCE COVERAGE DURING A GOVERNMENT**
4 **SHUTDOWN.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title 5, United States Code, is
6 amended—

7 (1) in section 8956, by adding at the end the
8 following:

9 “(d) Coverage under a dental benefits plan under this
10 chapter for any employee enrolled in such a plan and who,
11 as a result of a lapse in appropriations, is furloughed or
12 excepted from furlough and working without pay shall
13 continue during such lapse and may not be cancelled as
14 a result of nonpayment of premiums or other periodic
15 charges due to such lapse.”;

16 (2) in section 8986, by adding at the end the
17 following:

18 “(d) Coverage under a vision benefits plan under this
19 chapter for any employee enrolled in such a plan and who,
20 as a result of a lapse in appropriations, is furloughed or
21 excepted from furlough and working without pay shall
22 continue during such lapse and may not be cancelled as
23 a result of nonpayment of premiums or other periodic
24 charges due to such lapse.”; and

25 (3) in section 9003, by adding at the end the
26 following:

1 “(e) EFFECT OF GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN.—Cov-
2 erage under a master contract under this chapter for long-
3 term care insurance for an employee or member of the
4 uniformed services enrolled under such contract and who,
5 due to a lapse in appropriations, is furloughed or excepted
6 from furlough and working without pay shall continue
7 during such lapse and may not be cancelled as a result
8 of nonpayment of premiums or other periodic charges due
9 to such lapse.”.

10 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Office of
11 Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations under
12 which premiums for supplemental dental, supplemental vi-
13 sion, or long-term care insurance under chapter 89A, 89B,
14 or 90 (respectively) of title 5, United States Code, (as
15 amended by subsection (a)) that are unpaid by an em-
16 ployee or member of the uniformed services (as the case
17 may be), as a result of that employee or member being
18 furloughed or excepted from furlough and working without
19 pay as a result of a lapse in appropriations, are paid to
20 the applicable carrier from back pay made available to the
21 employee or member as soon as practicable upon the end
22 of such lapse.

23 (c) APPLICATION.—The amendments made by sub-
24 section (a) shall apply to any contract for supplemental
25 dental, supplemental vision, or long-term care insurance

1 under chapter 89A, 89B, or 90 (respectively) of title 5,
2 United States Code, entered into before, on, or after the
3 date of enactment of this Act.

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