

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5757

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the care furnished to veterans with military sexual trauma.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Mr. BARR (for himself and Ms. GABBARD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the care furnished to veterans with military sexual trauma.

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 “Military Sexual Assault
5 Victims Empowerment Act” or the “Military SAVE Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO CARE FOR VETERANS WITH**
7 **MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA.**

8 (a) COMMUNITY CARE.—Section 1703(d) of title 38,
9 United States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)—

1 (A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “;
2 or” and inserting a semicolon;

3 (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the
4 period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

5 (C) by adding at the end the following new
6 subparagraph:

7 “(F) a covered veteran is seeking coun-
8 seling, care, or services for which the person is
9 eligible under section 1720D of this title.”;

10 (2) in paragraph (3)—

11 (A) by striking “subparagraph (C) of such
12 paragraph, or that” and inserting “subpara-
13 graph (C) of such paragraph, that”; and

14 (B) by inserting “or that the covered vet-
15 eran is seeking counseling or care or services
16 for which the person is eligible under section
17 1720D of this title,” after “subparagraph (D)
18 of such paragraph,”; and

19 (3) by adding at the end the following new
20 paragraph:

21 “(4) The Secretary shall provide to covered veterans
22 described in paragraph (1)(F) information regarding the
23 counseling, care, and services available to the covered vet-
24 eran through the Department with respect to the coun-
25 seling, care, and services described in such paragraph.”.

1 (b) IMPROVEMENTS TO MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA
2 TREATMENT AUTHORITY.—Section 1720D of such title is
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (a)—

5 (A) paragraph (1), by striking “overcome
6 psychological trauma, which in the judgment of
7 a mental health professional” and inserting
8 “treat any condition, which in the judgment of
9 a health care professional”;

10 (B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “over-
11 come psychological trauma” and inserting
12 “treat conditions”;

13 (C) by amending paragraph (3) to read as
14 follows:

15 “(3) A veteran may receive counseling and care and
16 services under this section through the Veterans Commu-
17 nity Care program in accordance with section 1703(d) of
18 this title.”; and

19 (D) in subsection (b)(2), by striking
20 “counseling” each place it appears and insert-
21 ing “counseling and care and services”.

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