

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 747

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct and support research on the efficacy and safety of medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2019

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct and support research on the efficacy and safety of medicinal cannabis, 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. CONDUCT OF RESEARCH INTO EFFECTS OF**  
4 **CANNABIS ON HEALTH OUTCOMES OF CER-**  
5 **TAIN VETERANS.**

6 (a) RESEARCH.—In carrying out the responsibilities  
7 of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under section 7303  
8 of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary shall con-  
9 duct and support research relating to the efficacy and  
10 safety of forms of cannabis described in subsection (c) on

1 the health outcomes of covered veterans diagnosed with  
2 chronic pain, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other  
3 conditions the Secretary determines appropriate. The Sec-  
4 retary shall ensure that such research is conducted in ac-  
5 cordance with applicable regulations relating to the over-  
6 sight of research, including such regulations prescribed by  
7 the Office of Research and Development of the Depart-  
8 ment of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Health and  
9 Human Services (including through the National Institute  
10 on Drug Abuse), the Food and Drug Administration, the  
11 Drug Enforcement Administration, and the National In-  
12 stitutes of Health.

13 (b) DATA PRESERVATION.—Research conducted pur-  
14 suant to subsection (a) shall include a mechanism to en-  
15 sure the preservation of all data, including all data sets,  
16 collected or used for purposes of the research required by  
17 subsection (a) in a manner that will facilitate further re-  
18 search.

19 (c) FORMS OF CANNABIS TO BE RESEARCHED.—The  
20 forms of cannabis described in this subsection are—

21 (1) varying forms of cannabis, including—

22 (A) full plants and extracts;

23 (B) at least three different strains of can-  
24 nabis with significant variants in phenotypic  
25 traits and various ratios of tetrahydrocannabi-

1           nol and cannabidiol in chemical composition;  
2           and

3                   (C) other chemical analogs of tetrahydro-  
4           cannabinol; and

5           (2) varying methods of cannabis delivery, in-  
6           cluding topical application, combustible and non-  
7           combustible inhalation, and ingestion.

8           (d) IMPLEMENTATION.—In conducting and sup-  
9           porting research under subsection (a), the Secretary  
10          shall—

11                   (1) before conducting and supporting such re-  
12           search, develop a plan to implement this section and  
13           submit such plan to the Committees on Veterans’  
14           Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Sen-  
15           ate; and

16                   (2) issue any requests for proposals the Sec-  
17           retary determines appropriate for such implementa-  
18           tion.

19           (e) REPORTS.—During the five-year period beginning  
20           on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
21           shall submit periodically, but not less frequently than an-  
22           nually, to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the  
23           House of Representatives and the Senate reports on the  
24           implementation of this section.

1       (f) COVERED VETERAN DEFINED.—In this section,  
2 the term “covered veteran” means a veteran who is en-  
3 rolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department  
4 of Veterans Affairs under section 1705 of title 38, United  
5 States Code.

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