

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1972

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the period during which the referral of a veteran, made by a health care provider of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to a non-Department provider, for care or services under the Community Care Program of such Department, remains valid.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2025

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish the period during which the referral of a veteran, made by a health care provider of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to a non-Department provider, for care or services under the Community Care Program of such Department, remains valid.

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 “Standardizing Treat-
5 ment and Referral Times Act of 2025” or the “START
6 Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF PERIOD DURING WHICH A RE-**
2 **FERRAL UNDER THE COMMUNITY CARE PRO-**
3 **GRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS**
4 **AFFAIRS REMAINS VALID.**

5 Section 1703(a)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
6 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
7 paragraph:

8 “(E) Ensuring that the period during which the
9 referral of a covered veteran, made by a health care
10 provider of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to
11 a non-Department provider, for care or services
12 under this section, is valid, begins on the day that
13 the covered veteran has the first appointment with
14 such non-Department provider.”.

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