

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1336
OFFERED BY MR. MURPHY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans National
3 Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO FURNISH HYPERBARIC OXY-
5 GEN THERAPY TO A VETERAN WITH TRAU-
6 MATIC BRAIN INJURY OR POST-TRAUMATIC
7 STRESS DISORDER.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Veterans
9 Affairs shall implement a pilot program to furnish HBOT
10 to a veteran who has a traumatic brain injury or post-
11 traumatic stress disorder through a health care provider
12 described in section 1703(c)(5) of title 38, United States
13 Code.

14 (b) LOCATIONS.—The Secretary shall select two Vet-
15 erans Integrated Service Networks in which to operate the
16 pilot program.

17 (c) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary
18 shall ensure that any medical facility at which a veteran

1 who has a traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress
2 disorder receives HBOT pursuant to the pilot program is
3 accredited by—

4 (1) the Joint Commission on Accreditation of
5 Hospital Organizations;

6 (2) the Undersea and Hyberbaric Medical Soci-
7 ety; or

8 (3) another appropriate organization that has
9 expertise and objectivity comparable to that of the
10 Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospital Or-
11 ganizations or the Undersea and Hyberbaric Medical
12 Society.

13 (d) FUNDING.—

14 (1) There is in the general fund of the Treasury
15 a fund to be known as the “VA HBOT Fund” (in
16 this Act referred to as the “Fund”).

17 (2) The sole source of monies for the Fund
18 shall be donations received by the Secretary for ex-
19 press purposes of the Fund.

20 (3) Amounts in the Fund shall be available to
21 the Secretary without fiscal year limitation to pay
22 for HBOT under subsection (a).

23 (4) The Fund shall terminate on the termi-
24 nation date under subsection (e).

1 (e) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall termi-
2 nate on the day that is three years after the date of the
3 enactment of this Act.

4 (f) HBOT DEFINED.—In this Act, the term
5 “HBOT” means hyperbaric oxygen therapy with a medical
6 device—

7 (1) approved by the Food and Drug Adminis-
8 tration; or

9 (2) issued an investigational device exemption
10 by the Food and Drug Administration.

11 **SEC. 3. GAO REPORT ON THE USE OF HYPERBARIC OXYGEN**
12 **THERAPY TO TREAT TRAUMATIC BRAIN IN-**
13 **JURY AND POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DIS-**
14 **ORDER.**

15 Not later than one year after the date of the enact-
16 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United
17 States shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Af-
18 fairs of the Senate and House of Representatives an up-
19 date to the report titled “Research on Hyperbaric Oxygen
20 Therapy to Treat Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Trau-
21 matic Stress Disorder” (GAO-16-154). Such report shall
22 include the assessment of the Comptroller General of clin-
23 ical trials conducted, since the publication of such re-
24 port—

1 (1) regarding the use of hyperbaric oxygen
2 therapy to treat traumatic brain injury and post-
3 traumatic stress disorder; and

4 (2) by—

5 (A) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;

6 (B) the Secretary of Defense; and

7 (C) private entities.

8 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN LIMITS ON PAYMENTS OF**
9 **PENSION.**

10 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
11 is amended by striking “November 30, 2031” and insert-
12 ing “October 30, 2034”.

