

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1402

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide coverage for boxing-based exercise classes for veterans diagnosed with certain movement disorders, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 7, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself and Mr. LAHOOD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide coverage for boxing-based exercise classes for veterans diagnosed with certain movement disorders, 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 “Boxing Therapy for
5 Parkinson’s Access Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. BOXING-BASED EXERCISE CLASSES FOR TREAT-**
2 **MENT OF VETERANS DIAGNOSED WITH CER-**
3 **TAIN MOVEMENT DISORDERS.**

4 (a) **COVERAGE.**—Subchapter II of chapter 17 of title
5 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new section (and conforming the table of sec-
7 tions at the beginning of such chapter accordingly):

8 **“§ 1720K. Boxing-based exercise classes for treatment**
9 **of certain movement disorders**

10 “(a) **CLASSES.**—In furnishing medical services under
11 this chapter, the Secretary shall furnish boxing-based ex-
12 ercise classes to a veteran (through the provision of such
13 classes to the veteran at a medical facility of the Depart-
14 ment or the reimbursement for such classes provided to
15 the veteran at a non-Department facility) if the veteran—

16 “(1) is enrolled in the health care system estab-
17 lished under section 1705(a) of this title;

18 “(2) has been diagnosed with a covered move-
19 ment disorder; and

20 “(3) elects to participate in such classes for the
21 purpose of treating the covered movement disorder
22 with which the veteran has been diagnosed.

23 “(b) **COVERED MOVEMENT DISORDER DEFINED.**—
24 In this section, the term ‘covered movement disorder’
25 means Parkinson’s disease or a similar movement dis-
26 order.”.

1 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-
2 section (a) shall apply with respect to medical services fur-
3 nished on or after the date that is 180 days after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act.

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