

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1944

To require directors of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit annual pamphlets to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the status of such facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 28, 2019

Mrs. LESKO (for herself and Mrs. LEE of Nevada) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To require directors of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit annual pamphlets to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the status of such facilities, 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 “VA Medical Center
5 Facility Transparency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INFORMATION ON MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE DE-**
2 **PARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) ANNUAL PAMPHLETS.—The Secretary of Vet-
4 erans Affairs shall ensure that each director of a medical
5 facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs submits to
6 the Secretary, the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the
7 House of Representatives and the Senate, and the appro-
8 priate Members of Congress an annual concise, easy-to-
9 read pamphlet containing, with respect to the fiscal year
10 covered by the pamphlet, the following:

11 (1) Statistics regarding—

12 (A) how many veterans were treated at the
13 facility;

14 (B) the most common illnesses or condi-
15 tions for which treatment was furnished;

16 (C) the average wait time for veterans to
17 receive treatment; and

18 (D) other matters the director determines
19 appropriate.

20 (2) A description of any successes or achieve-
21 ments experienced by the facility, including actions
22 taken to improve the facility and the care provided
23 at the facility.

24 (3) A brief plan to improve the facility, includ-
25 ing—

1 (A) any resources that the director antici-
2 pates requesting to carry out the plan; and

3 (B) a summary of any resources received
4 by the director during the previous fiscal year.

5 (b) AVAILABILITY.—Each pamphlet under subsection
6 (a) shall be made publicly available—

7 (1) in a physical form at the relevant medical
8 facility of the Department in a conspicuous location;
9 and

10 (2) in an electronic form on the internet website
11 of the facility.

12 (c) TIMING.—The pamphlets under subsection (a)
13 shall be submitted during the first fiscal year beginning
14 after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enact-
15 ment of this Act and not less frequently than once each
16 fiscal year thereafter.

17 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) The term “appropriate Members of Con-
19 gress” means, with respect to a medical facility of
20 the Department of Veterans Affairs about which a
21 pamphlet is submitted under subsection (a), the
22 Senators representing the State, and the Member,
23 Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of
24 Representatives representing the district, that in-
25 cludes the medical facility.

1 (2) The term “resources” includes funding, hir-
2 ing authorities, additional staffing, personnel
3 changes, construction, information technology, and
4 other authorities, property, or services to improve a
5 medical facility of the Department of Veterans Af-
6 fairs.

7 (3) The term “State” means each of the several
8 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth
9 of Puerto Rico, and any territory or possession of
10 the United States.

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