

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3951

To establish in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs the Office of Health Care Quality.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Mr. BERA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs the Office of Health Care Quality.

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. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE**  
4 **QUALITY IN VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRA-**  
5 **TION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 73 of title  
7 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end  
8 the following new section:

1 **“§ 7310. Office of Health Care Quality**

2       “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Veterans  
3 Health Administration an Office of Health Care Quality  
4 (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘Office’). The  
5 Office shall oversee the implementation and dissemination  
6 across all medical facilities of the Department of best  
7 practices, quality improvements, corrective actions, and  
8 Inspector General recommendations.

9       “(b) DIRECTOR.—(1) The head of the Office shall be  
10 a Director, who shall report directly to the Under Sec-  
11 retary for Health (without delegation).

12       “(2) Any person appointed as Director shall be—

13               “(A) an established expert in the field of health  
14 care quality, administration of medical facilities, or  
15 similar fields; and

16               “(B) qualified to carry out the duties of the Of-  
17 fice based on demonstrated experience and expertise.

18       “(c) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Office are as  
19 follows:

20               “(1) To develop and maintain a system to pro-  
21 vide notice to all medical facilities of the Department  
22 of any applicable best practices, quality improve-  
23 ments, corrective actions, and Inspector General rec-  
24 ommendations.

25               “(2) To monitor the compliance of such medical  
26 facilities with such best practices, quality improve-

1       ments, corrective actions, and Inspector General rec-  
2       ommendations.

3       “(d) RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall ensure that  
4 the Director has sufficient resources to carry out the re-  
5 sponsibilities of the Director in a timely manner.

6       “(e) REPORT.—The Director shall submit to Con-  
7 gress an annual report on the progress of the medical fa-  
8 cilities of the Department in implementing applicable best  
9 practices, quality improvements, corrective actions, and  
10 Inspector General recommendations.”.

11       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
12 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting  
13 after the item relating to section 7309 the following new  
14 item:

“7310. Office of Health Care Quality.”.

15       (c) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later  
16 than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
17 the Director of the Office of Health Care Quality, as es-  
18 tablished under section 7310 of title 38, United States  
19 Code, as added by subsection (a), shall develop an initial  
20 system for proving the notice required under such section  
21 7310.

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