

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4154

To direct the Under Secretary of Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to contact certain veterans to encourage such veterans to receive medical examinations furnished or paid for by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 2, 2019

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

A BILL

To direct the Under Secretary of Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to contact certain veterans to encourage such veterans to receive medical examinations furnished or paid for by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Leave no Veteran Be-
5 hind Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTAIN VETERANS.**

7 (a) NOTICE.—Not later than 90 days after the date
8 of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of

1 Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs shall seek
2 to contact each covered veteran by mail, telephone, or
3 email to encourage each covered veteran to receive medical
4 examinations including the following:

5 (1) A comprehensive physical examination.

6 (2) A comprehensive mental health examina-
7 tion.

8 (3) A comprehensive eye examination if the cov-
9 ered veteran has not received such an examination
10 in the year immediately preceding the date of such
11 examination.

12 (4) A comprehensive audiological examination if
13 the covered veteran has not received such an exam-
14 ination in the year immediately preceding the date
15 of such examination.

16 (b) EXAMINATIONS.—

17 (1) VA HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.—If a cov-
18 ered veteran elects to receive more than one exam-
19 ination described in subsection (a) at a health care
20 facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the
21 Under Secretary of Health shall seek to furnish all
22 such scheduled examinations on the same day.

23 (2) COMMUNITY CARE.—Pursuant to subsection
24 (d) or (e) of section 1703 of title 38, United States
25 Code, a covered veteran may receive an examination

1 described in subsection (a) from a health care pro-
2 vider described in subsection (c) of that section.

3 (c) TRANSPORTATION.—

4 (1) BENEFICIARY TRAVEL PROGRAM.—Pursu-
5 ant to section 111 of title 38, United States Code,
6 the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may pay for a
7 rural covered veteran to travel to a health care facil-
8 ity to receive an examination described in subsection
9 (a).

10 (2) SHUTTLE SERVICE.—The Under Secretary
11 of Health shall seek to enter into agreements with
12 non-profit organizations to provide shuttle service to
13 rural covered veterans for examinations described in
14 subsection (a).

15 (d) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 18 months
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
17 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report re-
18 garding how many covered veterans scheduled examina-
19 tions described in subsection (a) after receiving a letter,
20 telephone call, or email under that subsection.

21 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) The term “covered veteran” means a vet-
23 eran who—

1 (A) is enrolled in the system of annual pa-
2 tient enrollment under section 1705 of title 38,
3 United States Code; and

4 (B) has not received health care furnished
5 or paid for by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
6 during the two years immediately preceding the
7 date in subsection (a)(1).

8 (2) The term “rural covered veteran” means a
9 covered veteran—

10 (A) who lives in an area served by the Of-
11 fice of Rural Health of the Department of Vet-
12 erans Affairs; and

13 (B) whom the Under Secretary of Health
14 determines requires assistance to travel to a
15 health care facility to receive an examination
16 described in subsection (a).

17 (3) The term “veteran” has the meaning given
18 that term in section 101 of title 38, United States
19 Code.

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