

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4862

To establish certain requirements with respect to the appointment and oversight of the Attending Physician, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2021

Mr. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To establish certain requirements with respect to the appointment and oversight of the Attending Physician, 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 “Office of Attending
5 Physician Independence Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. APPOINTMENT OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attending Physician shall be
8 appointed by the President, from the candidates rec-
9 ommended by the commission under subsection (b)(2), by

1 and with the advice and consent of the Senate for a term
2 of 10 years.

3 (b) INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT.—

4 (1) COMMISSION TO RECOMMEND CANDIDATES.—There is established a commission to rec-
5 DIDATES.—There is established a commission to rec-
6 ommend individuals to the President in accordance
7 with paragraph (2) for appointment to the position
8 of Attending Physician, which shall consist of 15
9 members as follows:

10 (A) The Speaker of the House of Rep-
11 resentatives.

12 (B) The President pro tempore of the Sen-
13 ate.

14 (C) The majority and minority leaders of
15 the House of Representatives and the Senate.

16 (D) The chairs and the ranking minority
17 members of—

18 (i) the Committee on House Adminis-
19 tration of the House of Representatives;

20 (ii) the Committee on Appropriations
21 of the House of Representatives;

22 (iii) the Committee on Rules and Ad-
23 ministration of the Senate; and

24 (iv) the Committee on Appropriations
25 of the Senate.

1 (E) The Marshal of the Supreme Court of
2 the United States.

3 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR RECOMMENDED CAN-
4 DIDATES.—The commission shall recommend under
5 paragraph (1) at least 3 individuals who are medical
6 officers of the Department of the Navy (as such
7 term is defined in section 101(b) of title 10, United
8 States Code) for appointment to the position of At-
9 tending Physician.

10 (3) ELIGIBILITY FOR REAPPOINTMENT.—An in-
11 dividual who serves a term as Attending Physician
12 shall be eligible for reappointment to such office in
13 accordance with subsection (a).

14 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (a) shall apply
15 with respect to an individual appointed to fill a vacancy
16 in the office of Attending Physician after the date of en-
17 actment of this Act.

18 **SEC. 3. OVERSIGHT OF OFFICE OF ATTENDING PHYSICIAN.**

19 The Office of Attending Physician shall be subject to
20 oversight by the Committee on House Administration of
21 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules
22 and Administration of the Senate.

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