

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5246

To require directors of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit plans to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on how to improve such facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2018

Mr. RUSSELL (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. COLE, and Mr. LUCAS) 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 plans to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on how to improve 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 Improvement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PLANS TO IMPROVE MEDICAL FACILITIES OF THE**
7 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

8 (a) PLAN REQUIRED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans
2 Affairs shall require each director of a medical facil-
3 ity of the Department of Veterans Affairs to submit
4 to the Secretary, not later than 90 days after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, a plan to improve
6 such facility in such a fashion as would result in the
7 facility obtaining a Department five-star rating.

8 (2) CONTENTS.—The Secretary shall ensure
9 that each plan submitted under paragraph (1) in-
10 cludes sufficient detail regarding resources, per-
11 sonnel changes, hiring authorities, additional staff-
12 ing, and changes to information systems as is nec-
13 essary to obtain the rating described in such para-
14 graph.

15 (b) ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary shall ensure
16 that, in the first fiscal year beginning after the date that
17 is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and
18 not less frequently than once each fiscal year thereafter,
19 each director of a medical facility of the Department which
20 does not have a Department five-star rating submits to
21 the Secretary a report on the actions taken by the director
22 to carry out the plan submitted by the director under sub-
23 section (a)(1) and to obtain the rating described in such
24 subsection.

1 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON USE OF AUTHORITIES
2 TO INVESTIGATE MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE DEPART-
3 MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should make
5 full use of the authorities provided by section 2 of the En-
6 hancing Veteran Care Act (Public Law 115–95).

○