

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5431

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to award grants to health care entities to lease, purchase, or build health care facilities for female patients to provide hospital care and medical services to qualified female veterans.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2016

Mr. ISRAEL (for himself and Mr. ZELDIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to award grants to health care entities to lease, purchase, or build health care facilities for female patients to provide hospital care and medical services to qualified female veterans.

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 “Expanding Care for  
5 Female Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HOSPITAL CARE AND**  
2 **MEDICAL SERVICES TO QUALIFIED FEMALE**  
3 **VETERANS.**

4 (a) **PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**—The Secretary  
5 of Veterans Affairs shall establish a pilot program to  
6 award grants to health care entities to lease, purchase,  
7 or build health care facilities for female patients to provide  
8 hospital care and medical services to qualified female vet-  
9 erans.

10 (b) **DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.**—The pilot pro-  
11 gram shall terminate three years after the date of the en-  
12 actment of this Act.

13 (c) **APPLICATION.**—To be selected to receive a grant  
14 under the pilot program, a health care entity shall submit  
15 to the Secretary an application at such time, in such man-  
16 ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may  
17 require.

18 (d) **NATURE OF FACILITIES LEASED, PURCHASED,**  
19 **OR BUILT THROUGH USE OF PILOT PROGRAM GRANT**  
20 **FUNDS.**—For purposes of providing hospital care and  
21 medical services to qualified female veterans, a health care  
22 facility leased, purchased, or built under the pilot program  
23 shall be deemed to be—

24 (1) an entity specified in section 101(a)(1)(B)  
25 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability  
26 Act of 2014 (38 U.S.C. 1701 note); or

1           (2) if the authority to carry out the program es-  
2           tablished under section 101 of such Act is termi-  
3           nated, an entity otherwise authorized to provide hos-  
4           pital care and medical services pursuant to an agree-  
5           ment entered into by the Secretary.

6           (e) REPORT.—Not later than three years after the  
7           date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Vet-  
8           erans Affairs shall submit a report to Congress that in-  
9           cludes the following:

10           (1) The number of grants awarded under the  
11           pilot program.

12           (2) The amount of each grant awarded under  
13           the pilot program.

14           (3) A list of the health care entities awarded  
15           grants under the pilot program.

16           (4) An assessment of the pilot program.

17           (5) A recommendation as to whether the dura-  
18           tion of the pilot program should be extended.

19           (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20           (1) HOSPITAL CARE.—The term “hospital care”  
21           has the meaning given such term in section 1701 of  
22           title 38, United States Code.

23           (2) MEDICAL SERVICES.—The term “medical  
24           services” has the meaning given such term in section  
25           1701 of title 38, United States Code.

1           (3) QUALIFIED FEMALE VETERAN.—The term  
2           “qualified female veteran” means a female veteran  
3           enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the De-  
4           partment of Veterans Affairs established and oper-  
5           ated under section 1705 of title 38, United States  
6           Code.

7           (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
8           authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Veterans  
9           Affairs \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2017 to carry out the  
10          pilot program.

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