

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6516

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to expand eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish a minimum period of care or services under such program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 8, 2016

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

A BILL

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to expand eligibility for the Veterans Choice Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish a minimum period of care or services under such program, 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. EXPANSION OF VETERANS CHOICE PROGRAM.**

4 (a) EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR PROGRAM.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b)(2) of section

6 101 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Account-

1 ability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38 U.S.C.
2 1701 note) is amended—

3 (A) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking
4 “or”;

5 (B) in subparagraph (D)(ii)(II)(dd), by
6 striking the period at the end and inserting “;
7 or”; and

8 (C) by adding at the end the following new
9 subparagraph:

10 “(E) is unable to schedule an appointment
11 with the veteran’s primary care physician at the
12 same medical facility of the Department at
13 which the veteran had the most recent appoint-
14 ment with the physician because the physician
15 is no longer employed at such facility.”.

16 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection
17 (g)(3) of such section is amended by striking “or
18 (D)” and inserting “, (D), or (E)”.

19 (b) MINIMUM PERIOD OF CARE OR SERVICES.—Sub-
20 section (c)(1)(B)(i) of such section is amended by insert-
21 ing “, but not shorter than one year” after “Secretary”.

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