

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1298

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct cost-benefit analyses for the provision of medical care by the Department of Veterans Affairs in certain geographic areas served by multiple Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 31, 2011

Mr. LOBIONDO (for himself, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. ANDREWS, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct cost-benefit analyses for the provision of medical care by the Department of Veterans Affairs in certain geographic areas served by multiple Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities.

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 “Veterans’ Efficiencies
5 Through Savings Act of 2011” or the “VETS Act of
6 2011”.

1 **SEC. 2. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN**
2 **GEOGRAPHIC AREAS SERVED BY MULTIPLE**
3 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MED-**
4 **ICAL FACILITIES.**

5 (a) **COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS REQUIRED.**—The Sec-
6 retary of Veterans Affairs shall conduct a cost-benefit
7 analysis of the provision of medical care by the Depart-
8 ment of Veterans Affairs for the following geographic
9 areas:

10 (1) Any 75 square mile area where three or
11 more Department outpatient clinics are located.

12 (2) Any 100 square mile area where two or
13 more Department hospitals are located.

14 (b) **CONTENTS OF ANALYSIS.**—In conducting a cost-
15 benefit analysis under subsection (a)—

16 (1) for any area described in paragraph (1) of
17 such subsection, the Secretary shall determine
18 whether the benefits of operating all three clinics in
19 the area outweigh the benefits of replacing such clin-
20 ics with one comprehensive outpatient clinic;

21 (2) the Secretary shall consider the benefits of
22 constructing a new Department hospital to serve vet-
23 erans residing in the area and the benefits of enter-
24 ing into an agreement with a non-Department hos-
25 pital for the provision of dedicated space within the

1 hospital to provide in-patient hospital care to vet-
2 erans residing in the area; and

3 (3) the Secretary shall evaluate any agreements
4 entered into with non-Department medical care pro-
5 viders to provide medical care to veterans residing in
6 an area served by one or more of the outpatient clin-
7 ics or hospitals located in the area for which the
8 analysis is conducted to determine whether to enter
9 into such an agreement with any additional pro-
10 viders.

11 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6
12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
13 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on any cost-
14 benefit analysis conducted under this section.

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