

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2601

AN ACT

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the access of veterans to organ transplants, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Increased
3 Choice for Transplanted Organs and Recovery Act of
4 2017” or the “VICTOR Act of 2017”.

5 **SEC. 2. ORGAN TRANSPLANTS UNDER THE VETERANS**
6 **CHOICE PROGRAM.**

7 Section 101(b)(2) of the Veterans Access, Choice,
8 and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38
9 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

- 10 (1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “or”;
- 11 (2) in subparagraph (D)(ii)(II)(dd), by striking
12 the period and inserting “; or”; and
- 13 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
14 paragraph:
- 15 “(E)(i) requires an organ or bone marrow
16 transplant; and
- 17 “(ii)(I) has, in the opinion of the primary
18 health care provider of the veteran, a medically
19 compelling reason to travel outside the region of
20 the Organ Procurement and Transplantation
21 Network, established under section 372 of the
22 National Organ Transplantation Act (Public
23 Law 98–507; 42 U.S.C. 274), in which the vet-
24 eran resides to receive such transplant at a
25 medical facility of the Department; or

1 “(II) faces an unusual or excessive burden
2 in receiving such transplant at a medical facility
3 of the Department, including—

4 “(aa) geographical challenges;

5 “(bb) environmental factors, including
6 roads that are not accessible to the general
7 public, traffic, or hazardous weather;

8 “(cc) a medical condition of the vet-
9 eran that affects the ability to travel; or

10 “(dd) other factors the Secretary de-
11 termines appropriate, including the pref-
12 erence of the veteran to receive such trans-
13 plant at a non-Department facility.”.

14 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
16 on the later of—

17 (1) October 1, 2018; and

18 (2) the date of the enactment of this Act.

 Passed the House of Representatives November 7,
2017.

Attest:

Clerk.

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