

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3530

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enforce the licensure requirement for medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 27, 2019

Mr. CLOUD (for himself, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. PETERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enforce the licensure requirement for medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Improving Confidence  
5 in Veterans’ Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT OF LICENSURE REQUIREMENT FOR**  
2 **MEDICAL PROVIDERS OF THE DEPARTMENT**  
3 **OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7402 of title 38, United  
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (f)—

7 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “more  
8 than one” and inserting “one or more”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting be-  
10 fore the semicolon the following: “, or, if the  
11 position requires the person to prescribe con-  
12 trolled substances, the Drug Enforcement  
13 Agency registration of the person has been ter-  
14 minated, revoked, or surrendered, and the per-  
15 son has not received a waiver from the Drug  
16 Enforcement Agency”;

17 (2) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-  
18 section (h); and

19 (3) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-  
20 lowing new subsection (g):

21 “(g)(1) The Secretary shall take prompt and appro-  
22 priate adverse personnel actions pursuant to this chapter  
23 against an employee who—

24 “(A) is not licensed, registered, certified, or in  
25 receipt of a waiver, as required by subsection (f); or

1           “(B) who does not promptly notify the Sec-  
2           retary of any suspension in such license, registra-  
3           tion, or certification.

4           “(2) The Secretary shall conduct biennial audits of  
5           employees covered by subsection (f) to ensure that the em-  
6           ployee is licensed, registered, or certified as required by  
7           such subsection.

8           “(3) The Secretary shall ensure that the hiring proc-  
9           ess for employees covered by subsection (f) includes—

10           “(A) requesting from the individual applying  
11           for the position the status of the licensure, registra-  
12           tion, or certification of the individual as required by  
13           such subsection, including a description of any ac-  
14           tions the individual must take to fulfill such licen-  
15           sure, registration, or certification requirement before  
16           beginning such employment; and

17           “(B) verifying such status before the individual  
18           begins such employment.

19           “(4) The Secretary shall provide annual training to  
20           directors of Veterans Integrated Service Networks, direc-  
21           tors of Department health-care facilities, and chiefs of  
22           staff of Department health-care facilities (and such other  
23           employees as the directors or chiefs of staff determine ap-  
24           propriate) with respect to carrying out this subsection and  
25           subsection (f).”.

1           (b) TRAINING.—Not later than 60 days after the date  
2 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans  
3 Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Af-  
4 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a  
5 report describing the training that will be provided under  
6 subsection (g)(4) of section 7402 of title 38, United States  
7 Code, as added by subsection (a).

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