

113TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4898

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide hospital care and medical services in non-Department facilities for veterans waiting longer than 14 days for an appointment in a Department facility, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 2014

Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. SALMON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide hospital care and medical services in non-Department facilities for veterans waiting longer than 14 days for an appointment in a Department facility, 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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Access to Veteran-Cen-
5 tered Community Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PROVISION**
2 **OF HOSPITAL CARE AND MEDICAL SERVICES**
3 **IN NON-DEPARTMENT FACILITIES FOR VET-**
4 **ERANS WAITING 14 DAYS OR LONGER FOR AN**
5 **APPOINTMENT.**

6 Section 1703 of title 38, United States Code, is
7 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
8 section:

9 “(e)(1) In carrying out this section, the Secretary of
10 Veterans Affairs shall determine that if any veteran has
11 been waiting for 14 days or longer for an appointment
12 to receive hospital care or medical services, including pri-
13 mary care, in a Department facility that the Department
14 facility is not capable of furnishing the care or services
15 required. The Secretary shall ensure that such care or
16 services are provided to such a veteran at a non-Depart-
17 ment facility under a contract under this section.

18 “(2) If, in the course of receiving hospital care or
19 medical services in a non-Department facility, a veteran
20 is referred to another non-Department facility for spe-
21 cialty care, such referral shall be submitted to the Sec-
22 retary who may reject such referral during the 72-hour
23 period following such submittal. If the Secretary does not
24 reject the referral during such period, the Secretary shall
25 ensure that such specialty care is provided to the veteran

1 at a non-Department facility under a contract under this
2 section.”.

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