

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5983

To expand the eligibility of veterans for hospital care and medical services provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical providers under the Veterans Choice Program.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2021

Mr. CARL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

---

## A BILL

To expand the eligibility of veterans for hospital care and medical services provided by non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical providers under the Veterans Choice Program.

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 Health Flexi-  
5 bility Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR NON-DEPART-**  
2 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CARE**  
3 **UNDER VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE PRO-**  
4 **GRAM.**

5 Section 1703 of title 38, United States Code, is  
6 amended—

7 (1) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the  
8 following new subsection (d):

9 “(d) CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CARE IS RE-  
10 QUIRED TO BE FURNISHED THROUGH NON-DEPART-  
11 MENT PROVIDERS.—Subject to the availability of appro-  
12 priations, the Secretary shall furnish hospital care, med-  
13 ical services, or extended care services to a covered veteran  
14 through health care providers specified in subsection (e),  
15 if the covered veteran notifies the Secretary that the vet-  
16 eran desires to receive care through the Veterans Commu-  
17 nity Care Program.”;

18 (2) by striking subsection (e);

19 (3) by redesignating subsections (f) through (o)  
20 as subsections (e) through (n), respectively;

21 (4) in subsection (e), as so redesignated by  
22 striking “or (e)”; and

23 (5) in subsection (l)(2), as so redesignated—

24 (A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-  
25 section (i)” and inserting “subsection (h)”;

26 (B) by striking subparagraph (B); and

1                   (C) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)  
2                   and (D) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respec-  
3                   tively.

○