

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 587

To amend title 10, United States Code, to prescribe alternative payment mechanisms for the payment of annual enrollment fees under the TRICARE program of the military health care system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 13, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to prescribe alternative payment mechanisms for the payment of annual enrollment fees under the TRICARE program of the military health care system.

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. PAYMENT MECHANISMS FOR TRICARE EN-**
4 **ROLLMENT FEES.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 55 of title 10, United
6 States Code, is amended in section 1097a—

7 (1) by striking the section heading and insert-
8 ing the following new section heading:

1 **“§ 1097a. TRICARE Program: enrollment and pay-**
2 **ment options”;**

3 (2) by striking subsection (c);

4 (3) by redesignating subsections (d) through (f)
5 as subsections (f) through (h), respectively; and

6 (4) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
7 lowing new subsections:

8 “(c) MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTION.—The Secretary of
9 Defense shall permit persons who enroll in the TRICARE
10 program to pay their annual enrollment fees on a monthly
11 basis.

12 “(d) ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT MECHANISMS.—In ad-
13 dition to existing methods by which an enrollee in the
14 TRICARE program may pay enrollment fees, the Sec-
15 retary of Defense shall establish mechanisms to provide
16 for payment of enrollment fees using—

17 “(1) a deduction from military retired or re-
18 tainer pay (or equivalent pay), in the case of a mem-
19 ber or former member of the uniformed services en-
20 titled to such pay who is an enrollee;

21 “(2) a deduction from monthly benefits under
22 section 202 or 223 of the Social Security Act (42
23 U.S.C. 402, 423), in the case of a person entitled to
24 such benefits who is an enrollee; and

25 “(3) an electronic funds transfer from a check-
26 ing or savings account designated by the enrollee.

1 “(e) COORDINATION OF DEDUCTION WITH OTHER
2 AGENCIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall enter into an
3 agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security and
4 the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct the deduction
5 mechanism authorized by subsection (d)(2) in the same
6 manner as provided in section 1840(a) of the Social Secu-
7 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395s(a)) for the monthly deduction
8 of premiums for the medicare program.”.

9 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
10 tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended striking
11 the item relating to section 1097a and inserting the fol-
12 lowing new item:

“1097a. TRICARE Program: enrollment and payment options.”.

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