

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4334

AN ACT

To provide for certain reporting requirements relating to medical care for women veterans provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and through contracts entered into by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs with non-Department medical providers, 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 “Improving Oversight
3 of Women Veterans’ Care Act of 2018”.

4 **SEC. 2. ANNUAL REPORT ON VETERAN ACCESS TO COV-**
5 **ERED SEX-SPECIFIC SERVICES UNDER COM-**
6 **MUNITY CARE CONTRACTS.**

7 (a) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Under Secretary of Vet-
8 erans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’
9 Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives
10 an annual report on the access of women veterans to cov-
11 ered sex-specific medical care under contracts with non-
12 Department medical providers entered into by the Sec-
13 retary of Veterans Affairs for the provision of hospital
14 care or medical services to veterans eligible for enrollment
15 in the patient enrollment system of the Department of
16 Veterans Affairs maintained under section 1705 of title
17 38, United States Code. Such report shall include data
18 and performance measures for the availability of covered
19 sex-specific medical care, including—

20 (1) the average wait time between the veteran’s
21 preferred appointment date and the date on which
22 the appointment is completed;

23 (2) driving time required for veterans to attend
24 appointments; and

25 (3) reasons why appointments could not be
26 scheduled with non-Department medical providers.

1 (b) SUNSET.—The requirement to submit a report
2 under this section shall terminate on the date that is 7
3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (c) COVERED SEX-SPECIFIC MEDICAL CARE.—In
5 this section, the term “covered sex-specific medical care”
6 means mammography, maternity care, and gynecological
7 care.

8 **SEC. 3. REPORTING ON VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRA-**
9 **TION ENVIRONMENT OF CARE STANDARDS**
10 **FOR WOMEN VETERANS.**

11 (a) MEDICAL FACILITY REPORTING.—Each medical
12 facility of the Department shall submit to the Secretary
13 of Veterans Affairs a quarterly report on the compliance
14 and noncompliance of the facility with the environment of
15 care standards for women veterans. Each such report shall
16 include the name of each person associated with such facil-
17 ity who is responsible for such compliance and the specific
18 role or responsibility assigned to each such person.

19 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days
20 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
21 of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on
22 Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the House of Rep-
23 resentatives a report on the plan of the Secretary to
24 strengthen the environment of care standards for women

1 veterans at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facili-
2 ties. Such report shall include—

3 (1) a description of the process established to
4 verify that noncompliance information reported
5 under subsection (a) is accurate and complete; and

6 (2) a description of the method by which the
7 Secretary will—

8 (A) ensure that all patient care areas of
9 each Department medical facility are inspected
10 as required; and

11 (B) expand the list of items that facility
12 staff inspect for compliance to align with the
13 women’s health handbook of the Veterans
14 Health Administration.

15 (c) SUNSET.—The requirement to submit a report
16 under this section shall terminate on the date that is 7
17 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

18 (d) ENVIRONMENT OF CARE STANDARDS FOR
19 WOMEN VETERANS.—In this section, the term “environ-
20 ment of care standards for women veterans” has the

1 meaning given that term in Veterans Health Administra-
2 tion Directive 1330.01(1).

Passed the House of Representatives May 21, 2018.

Attest:

Clerk.

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