

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5974

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2018

Mr. DENHAM (for himself, Mr. BOST, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Mr. CRIST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, 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 “Department of Vet-  
5 erans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Af-  
6 fording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General  
7 Safety Enhancements Act” or the “VA COST SAVINGS  
8 Enhancements Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. USE OF ON-SITE REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE**  
2 **TREATMENT SYSTEMS AT DEPARTMENT OF**  
3 **VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES.**

4 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF FACILITIES.—The Secretary  
5 of Veterans Affairs shall identify Department of Veterans  
6 Affairs facilities that would benefit from cost savings asso-  
7 ciated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste  
8 treatment system over a five-year period.

9 (b) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE COST ANALYSIS  
10 MODEL.—For purposes of carrying out subsection (a), the  
11 Secretary shall develop a uniform regulated medical waste  
12 cost analysis model to be used to determine the cost sav-  
13 ings associated with the use of an on-site regulated med-  
14 ical waste treatment system at Department facilities. Such  
15 model shall be designed to calculate savings based on—

16 (1) the cost of treating regulated medical waste  
17 at an off-site location under a contract with a non-  
18 Department entity, compared to

19 (2) the cost of treating regulated medical waste  
20 on-site, based on the equipment specification of  
21 treatment system manufacturers, with capital costs  
22 amortized over a ten-year period.

23 (c) INSTALLATION.—At each Department facility  
24 identified under subsection (a), the Secretary shall secure,  
25 install, and operate an on-site regulated medical waste  
26 treatment system.

1 (d) USE OF PURCHASE AGREEMENT.—Any medical  
2 waste treatment system purchased pursuant to this sec-  
3 tion shall be purchased under the purchase agreement  
4 known as the “VHA Regulated Medical Waste On-Site  
5 Treatment Equipment Systems Blanket Purchase Agree-  
6 ment”.

7 (e) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE DEFINED.—In  
8 this section, the term “regulated medical waste” has the  
9 meaning given such term under section 173.134(a)(5) of  
10 title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, concerning regu-  
11 lated medical waste and infectious substances, or any suc-  
12 cessor regulation, except that, in the case of an applicable  
13 State law that is more expansive, the definition in the  
14 State law shall apply.

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