

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10212

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study the potential benefits of peptide-based therapies for veterans receiving care through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

Ms. MACE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study the potential benefits of peptide-based therapies for veterans receiving care through the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 “Providing Evidence-
5 based Peptide Therapies to Improve Delivery and Ex-
6 panded Services for Veterans Act” or the “PEPTIDES
7 for Veterans Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE RELAT-**
2 **ING TO PEPTIDES.**

3 (a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans
4 Affairs shall conduct a review of the regulations and guid-
5 ance relating to peptides and, in particular, the scope of
6 “peptide” as a defined term in Federal regulations and
7 guidance, and shall establish an appropriate definition of
8 “peptide” for purposes of this Act. A primary focus of the
9 review shall be to consider addressing developments in re-
10 search relating to peptides, if any, since the regulations,
11 guidance, and defined terms were established.

12 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
13 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
14 to Congress a report on the results of the review. The re-
15 port shall—

16 (1) summarize the regulations, guidance, and
17 defined terms;

18 (2) describe the research developments, if any,
19 since the regulations, guidance, and defined terms
20 were established;

21 (3) set forth the definition of “peptide” estab-
22 lished by the Secretary for purposes of this Act;

23 (4) set forth a definition of “peptide-based ther-
24 apy” for purposes of this Act and any guidance the
25 Secretary determines to be appropriate regarding
26 what constitutes such a therapy; and

(5) explain the rationale for the definition established by the Secretary and the differences, if any, between such definition and other definitions of “peptide” in Federal regulations and guidance.

SEC. 3. STUDY ON POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF PEPTIDE-BASED THERAPIES FOR VETERANS AND PILOT PROGRAM TO EVALUATE THERAPIES.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date on which the report required by section 2 is submitted to Congress, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out a study on the safety, efficacy, and potential therapeutic benefits of peptide-based therapies for veterans receiving care at medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—In carrying out the study, the Secretary shall—

(A) review medical research;

(B) establish clinical protocols;

(C) identify potential applications relating to recovery, rehabilitation, chronic pain, mental health, physical wellness, and other service-connected conditions affecting veterans; and

1 (D) consider the extent to which peptides
2 are safe to use for clinical and rehabilitation
3 purposes.

4 (3) COMPLETION OF STUDY.—The study shall
5 be completed not later than the date that is 18
6 months after the date on which the report required
7 by section 2 is submitted to Congress.

8 (4) REPORT.—Upon completing the study, the
9 Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the
10 results of the study. The report shall include find-
11 ings, recommendations, and a determination as to
12 whether peptide-based therapies should be made
13 available to veterans receiving care at medical facili-
14 ties of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

15 (b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines,
17 in the report required by subsection (a)(4), that
18 peptide-based therapies should be provided to such
19 veterans, then the Secretary shall carry out a pilot
20 program under which peptide-based therapies are
21 made available to such veterans and the results of
22 those therapies are assessed.

23 (2) LIMITATIONS ON PILOT PROGRAM.—Partici-
24 pation in the pilot program shall be limited to vet-
25 erans who elect to participate, and the Secretary

1 shall impose such other geographic, clinical, or other
2 limitations on the pilot program as the Secretary
3 considers appropriate.

4 (3) COMPLETION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—The
5 pilot program shall be completed not later than the
6 date that is 5 years after the date on which it is es-
7 tablished.

8 (4) REPORT.—Upon completing the pilot pro-
9 gram, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
10 port on the results of the pilot program. The report
11 shall include—

12 (A) a detailed description of the effective-
13 ness of peptide treatments for clinical and reha-
14 bilitation purposes, including a determination
15 as to what conditions or ailments are improved
16 by use of peptides;

17 (B) guidance on large-scale implementation
18 of peptides throughout the medical facilities of
19 the Department; and

20 (C) any challenges encountered in carrying
21 out the pilot program.

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