

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7838

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a procurement program to facilitate the ability of the medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to make direct procurements of original artwork from veterans who are patients, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2026

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

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a procurement program to facilitate the ability of the medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs to make direct procurements of original artwork from veterans who are patients, 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 “Veteran Artists Heal-
5 ing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 81 of title 38, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding after section 8129 the
4 following new section:

5 **“§ 8130. Direct purchases of original artwork from**
6 **veterans enrolled as patients**

7 “(a) The Secretary shall carry out a procurement
8 program under this section to facilitate the ability of the
9 medical centers of the Department to make direct procure-
10 ments of original artwork from veterans who are enrolled
11 as patients.

12 “(b) Under the program, the Secretary shall ensure
13 that the head of each medical center—

14 “(1) has the authority to make covered procure-
15 ments; and

16 “(2) in exercising that authority, is not required
17 to obtain the approval of any official at the district,
18 regional, or Veterans Integrated Service Network
19 level, except to the extent such approval is required
20 by law.

21 “(c) As used in this section, a ‘covered procurement’
22 is a procurement—

23 “(1) under the micro-purchase authority in sec-
24 tion 1902 of title 41, United States Code;

1 “(2) directly from a veteran who, at the time of
2 the procurement, is a patient enrolled at the medical
3 center and has—

4 “(A) a clinical recommendation for creative
5 arts therapy; or

6 “(B) a history of participation in the Na-
7 tional Veterans Creative Arts Festival; and

8 “(3) of the veteran’s own original artwork.

9 “(d) The head of a medical center may exercise the
10 authority under this section only if—

11 “(1) the artwork is non-partisan and clinical in
12 nature, focusing on themes of recovery, nature, and
13 service; and

14 “(2) the veteran certifies that the artwork is
15 the veteran’s own original artwork.

16 “(e) The head of a medical center may make more
17 than one covered procurement under this section from an
18 individual veteran in a fiscal year but the aggregate
19 amount of such procurements by that medical center from
20 that veteran may not exceed \$2,500 per fiscal year.

21 “(f) A covered procurement under this section—

22 “(1) shall be made without regard to whether
23 the veteran is registered in the System for Awards
24 Management or certified as a small business concern
25 by the Small Business Administration;

1 “(2) shall be treated as a procurement from a
2 small business concern owned and controlled by vet-
3 erans for purposes of contracting goals and priorities
4 under sections 8127 and 8128 of this title; and

5 “(3) shall be made without regard to any re-
6 quirement in law, regulation, or policy that offers be
7 obtained from multiple sources or that awards be
8 distributed in an equitable manner, such as the re-
9 quirements in section 1902(e) of title 41, United
10 States Code, and section 15(j) of the Small Business
11 Act (15 U.S.C. 644(j)), as long as the price is deter-
12 mined to be reasonable.”.

13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
14 at the beginning of chapter 81 of such title is amended
15 by inserting after the item relating to section 8129 the
16 following new item:

 “8130. Direct purchases of original artwork from veterans enrolled as pa-
 tients.”.

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