

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 78

To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise certain provisions relating to the appointment of professional psychologists in the Veterans Health Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 7, 2003

Mr. INOUE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to revise certain provisions relating to the appointment of professional psychologists in the Veterans Health Administration, 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’s Health Ad-
5 ministration Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVISION OF AUTHORITY RELATING TO APPOINT-**
 2 **MENT OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS IN**
 3 **THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7401(3) of title 38,
 5 United States Code, is amended by striking “who hold di-
 6 plomas as diplomates in psychology from an accrediting
 7 authority approved by the Secretary”.

8 (b) CERTAIN OTHER APPOINTMENTS.—Section
 9 7405(a) of such title is amended—

10 (1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “Certified
 11 or” and inserting “Professional psychologists, cer-
 12 tified or”; and

13 (2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “Certified
 14 or” and inserting “Professional psychologists, cer-
 15 tified or”.

16 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 17 subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect on the date of
 18 the enactment of this Act.

19 (d) APPOINTMENT REQUIREMENT.—Notwith-
 20 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary of Vet-
 21 erans Affairs shall begin to make appointments of profes-
 22 sional psychologists in the Veterans Health Administra-
 23 tion under section 7401(3) of title 38, United States Code
 24 (as amended by subsection (a)), not later than one year
 25 after the date of the enactment of this Act.