

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 590

To provide for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of contracting for the use of private memory care facilities for veterans with Alzheimer's Disease.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2005

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

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## A BILL

To provide for the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of contracting for the use of private memory care facilities for veterans with Alzheimer's Disease.

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. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS PILOT**  
4                   **PROGRAM OF USE OF PRIVATE MEMORY**  
5                   **CARE FACILITIES FOR VETERANS WITH ALZ-**  
6                   **HEIMER'S DISEASE.**

7       (a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Veterans Af-  
8       fairs shall conduct a pilot program to determine the effec-

1 tiveness of contracting with private memory care facilities  
2 to provide needed services for veterans suffering from Alz-  
3 heimer's Disease as an alternative to the provision by the  
4 Secretary of inpatient care or home health care for such  
5 veterans.

6 (b) SCOPE OF PILOT PROGRAM.—(1) The pilot pro-  
7 gram shall be conducted through five medical centers of  
8 the Veterans Health Administration selected by the Sec-  
9 retary for such purpose.

10 (2) The program shall be conducted during fiscal  
11 years 2005 and 2006.

12 (3) Under the pilot program, the Secretary may con-  
13 tract for services for eligible veterans from private memory  
14 care facilities. Any such contract shall be entered into in  
15 the same manner as applies to contracts under section  
16 1703 of title 38, United States Code.

17 (c) REPORT.—Upon the conclusion of the pilot pro-  
18 gram, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report pro-  
19 viding the results of the pilot program. The report shall  
20 be submitted not later than 90 days after the end of the  
21 pilot program. The Secretary shall include in the report  
22 the following:

23 (1) The Secretary's assessment of the benefits  
24 to veterans of the pilot program.

1           (2) The Secretary’s assessment of the effect of  
2           the pilot program on the Department of Veterans  
3           Affairs, including the effect on delivery of health  
4           care to veterans suffering from Alzheimer’s disease  
5           or related memory disorders.

6           (3) Any other findings and conclusions of the  
7           Secretary with respect to the pilot program.

8           (4) Any recommendations of the Secretary  
9           for—

10                   (A) continuation of the pilot program;

11                   (B) extension of the pilot program to other  
12           service regions or to all service regions of the  
13           Department of Veterans Affairs; or

14                   (C) for making the authority to enter into  
15           contracts as described in subsection (b)(3) a  
16           permanent authority under section 1703 of title  
17           38, United States Code.

18           (d) MEMORY CARE FACILITIES.—For purposes of  
19           this section, the term “memory care facility” means a fa-  
20           cility that provides specialized services and housing that  
21           are tailored to the individual needs of those suffering from  
22           Alzheimer’s disease or related memory disorders.

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