

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 999

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a plan to provide chiropractic health care services and benefits for certain new beneficiaries as part of the TRICARE program.

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 “Chiropractic Health

5 Parity for Military Beneficiaries Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CARE FOR RETIREES, DE-**
2 **PENDENTS, AND SURVIVORS.**

3 (a) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than August 31,
4 2005, the Secretary of Defense shall complete develop-
5 ment of a plan to provide chiropractic health care services
6 and benefits, as a permanent part of the TRICARE pro-
7 gram, for covered beneficiaries.

8 (b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall require
9 that a contract entered into under section 1097 of title
10 10, United States Code, for the delivery of health care
11 services shall—

12 (1) include the delivery of chiropractic services;
13 (2) require that chiropractic services may be
14 provided only by a doctor of chiropractic; and
15 (3) provide that a covered beneficiary may se-
16 lect and have direct access to a doctor of chiro-
17 practice without referral by another health practi-
18 tioner.

19 (c) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—The plan developed
20 under subsection (a) shall provide for implementation of
21 the plan to begin no later than January 31, 2006.

22 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23 In this Act:

24 (1) The term “chiropractic services”—
25 (A) includes diagnosis (including by diag-
26 nostic X-ray tests), evaluation and manage-

1 ment, and therapeutic services for the treat-
2 ment of a patient's health condition, including
3 neuromusculoskeletal conditions and the sub-
4 luxation complex, and such other services deter-
5 mined appropriate by the Secretary and as au-
6 thorized under State law; and

17 (4) The term “TRICARE program” has the
18 meaning provided by section 1072(7) of title 10,
19 United States Code.

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