110TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 3103

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide partial payment for nursing home care to eligible veterans at a non-Department of Veterans Affairs nursing home of the veteran's choice, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 19, 2007

Mrs. Drake introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide partial payment for nursing home care to eligible veterans at a non-Department of Veterans Affairs nursing home of the veteran's choice, 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 Choice in
- 5 Nursing Home Care Act".

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ı	SEC. 2.	CONTRACTS	FOR PARTIAL	PAYMENT FOR	SERVICES

2 AT	CERTAIN	NON-DEPARTMENT	\mathbf{OF}	VET-
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- 3 ERANS AFFAIRS NURSING HOMES.
- 4 Section 1720 of title 38, United States Code, is
- 5 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
- 6 section:
- 7 "(g)(1) The Secretary shall, with respect to a veteran
- 8 eligible for nursing home care under section 1710A of this
- 9 title, and may, with respect to a veteran eligible for nurs-
- 10 ing home care under section 1710 of this title, provide
- 11 such care by entering into an agreement with a non-De-
- 12 partment nursing home of the veteran's choice upon the
- 13 application of the veteran. Under such an agreement, the
- 14 Secretary shall agree to pay the non-Department nursing
- 15 home for the provision of such care an amount not to ex-
- 16 ceed the lesser of the amount that is equal to the average
- 17 rate paid by the Secretary to non-Department nursing
- 18 homes pursuant to contracts under this section or the
- 19 amount actually charged for such care by the nursing
- 20 home with which the Secretary enters into an agreement
- 21 under this paragraph.
- 22 "(2) An application submitted by a veteran to receive
- 23 nursing home care in a non-Department nursing home of
- 24 the veteran's choice under this subsection shall include as-
- 25 surances by the veteran that the veteran shall assume re-
- 26 sponsibility for any amount owed such nursing home for

- 1 such care that exceeds the amount required to be paid by
- 2 the Secretary under paragraph (1), and that the veteran
- 3 is aware of the amount to be owed to the nursing home
- 4 by the veteran.
- 5 "(3) If a veteran does not submit an application to
- 6 receive nursing home care in a non-Department nursing
- 7 home of the veteran's choice under this subsection, the
- 8 Secretary shall provide nursing home care to the veteran
- 9 in such manner and to such extent as would otherwise be
- 10 provided under this chapter.".

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