

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4942

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the number of graduate medical education residency positions at hospitals administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 23, 2014

Ms. TITUS (for herself, Mr. O’ROURKE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RUIZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the number of graduate medical education residency positions at hospitals administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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 “Underserved Veterans
5 Access to Health Care Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**
2 **RESIDENCY POSITIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7302 of title 38, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing new subsection:

6 “(e)(1) In carrying out this section, the Secretary
7 shall establish medical residency programs, or ensure a
8 sufficient number of residency positions in medical resi-
9 dency programs, at medical facilities of the Department
10 that the Secretary determines—

11 “(A) are experiencing a shortage of physicians;
12 and

13 “(B) are located in communities that are des-
14 ignated as a health professional shortage area (as
15 defined in section 332 of the Public Health Service
16 Act (42 U.S.C. 254e)).

17 “(2) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary
18 shall—

19 “(A) determine the specialty of health care pro-
20 fessionals that a location is experiencing a shortage
21 of, including with respect to primary care and men-
22 tal health;

23 “(B) allocate the residency positions under
24 paragraph (1) based on such determination; and

25 “(C) notify Congress of the information used by
26 the Secretary to make such determination.”.

1 (b) FIVE-YEAR GOAL.—During the five-year period
2 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall establish not fewer
4 than 2,000 graduate medical education residency positions
5 pursuant to section 7302(e) of title 38, United States
6 Code, as added by subsection (a). In establishing such po-
7 sitions, the Secretary shall give priority to medical facili-
8 ties of the Department of Veterans Affairs that—

- 9 (1) as of the date of the enactment of this Act,
10 do not have medical residency programs; and
11 (2) are located in communities that have a high
12 concentration of veterans.

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