

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3951

To establish in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of
Veterans Affairs the Office of Health Care Quality.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

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

A BILL

To establish in the Veterans Health Administration of the
Department of Veterans Affairs the Office of Health
Care Quality.

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. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE**
4 **QUALITY IN VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRA-**
5 **TION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 73 of title
7 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end
8 the following new section:

1 **“§ 7310. Office of Health Care Quality**

2 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is in the Veterans
3 Health Administration an Office of Health Care Quality
4 (hereinafter in this section referred to as the ‘Office’). The
5 Office shall oversee the implementation and dissemination
6 across all medical facilities of the Department of best
7 practices, quality improvements, corrective actions, and
8 Inspector General recommendations.

9 “(b) DIRECTOR.—(1) The head of the Office shall be
10 a Director, who shall report directly to the Under Sec-
11 retary for Health (without delegation).

12 “(2) Any person appointed as Director shall be—

13 “(A) an established expert in the field of health
14 care quality, administration of medical facilities, or
15 similar fields; and

16 “(B) qualified to carry out the duties of the Of-
17 fice based on demonstrated experience and expertise.

18 “(c) FUNCTIONS.—The functions of the Office are as
19 follows:

20 “(1) To develop and maintain a system to pro-
21 vide notice to all medical facilities of the Department
22 of any applicable best practices, quality improve-
23 ments, corrective actions, and Inspector General rec-
24 ommendations.

25 “(2) To monitor the compliance of such medical
26 facilities with such best practices, quality improve-

1 ments, corrective actions, and Inspector General rec-
2 ommendations.

3 “(d) RESOURCES.—The Secretary shall ensure that
4 the Director has sufficient resources to carry out the re-
5 sponsibilities of the Director in a timely manner.

6 “(e) REPORT.—The Director shall submit to Con-
7 gress an annual report on the progress of the medical fa-
8 cilities of the Department in implementing applicable best
9 practices, quality improvements, corrective actions, and
10 Inspector General recommendations.”.

11 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
12 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
13 after the item relating to section 7309 the following new
14 item:

“7310. Office of Health Care Quality.”.

15 (c) DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later
16 than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act,
17 the Director of the Office of Health Care Quality, as es-
18 tablished under section 7310 of title 38, United States
19 Code, as added by subsection (a), shall develop an initial
20 system for proving the notice required under such section
21 7310.

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