

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2649

To modify the treatment of the costs of health care furnished under section 101 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to veterans covered by health-plan contracts.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2016

Mr. ROUNDS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To modify the treatment of the costs of health care furnished under section 101 of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to veterans covered by health-plan contracts.

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 “Veterans Choice Equal
5 Cost for Care Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF COSTS OF CARE**
2 **UNDER CHOICE PROGRAM FOR VETERANS**
3 **COVERED BY HEALTH-PLAN CONTRACTS.**

4 Section 101(e) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and
5 Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38
6 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

7 (1) by striking paragraphs (2) and (3); and

8 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
9 lowing new paragraphs:

10 “(2) **RESPONSIBILITY FOR COSTS OF CERTAIN**
11 **CARE.**—In any case in which an eligible veteran is
12 furnished hospital care or medical services under
13 this section for a non-service-connected disability de-
14 scribed in subsection (a)(2) of section 1729 of title
15 38, United States Code, the Secretary may recover
16 or collect reasonable charges for such care or serv-
17 ices from a health-care plan described in paragraph
18 (4) in accordance with such section.

19 “(3) **PAYMENT BY DEPARTMENT.**—

20 “(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall
21 pay the amount of any cost sharing under a
22 health-care plan described in paragraph (4)
23 that is charged to an eligible veteran for hos-
24 pital care or medical services furnished under
25 this section.

1 “(B) MAXIMUM AMOUNT PAID BY VET-
2 ERAN.—An eligible veteran shall not pay a
3 greater amount for receiving hospital care or
4 medical services under this section than the
5 amount the veteran would pay for receiving the
6 same or comparable care or services at a med-
7 ical facility of the Department or from a health
8 care provider of the Department.”.

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