

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2601

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 8, 2017

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## AN ACT

To amend the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 to improve the access of veterans to organ transplants, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Increased  
3 Choice for Transplanted Organs and Recovery Act of  
4 2017” or the “VICTOR Act of 2017”.

5 **SEC. 2. ORGAN TRANSPLANTS UNDER THE VETERANS**  
6 **CHOICE PROGRAM.**

7 Section 101(b)(2) of the Veterans Access, Choice,  
8 and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–146; 38  
9 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

10 (1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “or”;

11 (2) in subparagraph (D)(ii)(II)(dd), by striking  
12 the period and inserting “; or”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14 paragraph:

15 “(E)(i) requires an organ or bone marrow  
16 transplant; and

17 “(ii)(I) has, in the opinion of the primary  
18 health care provider of the veteran, a medically  
19 compelling reason to travel outside the region of  
20 the Organ Procurement and Transplantation  
21 Network, established under section 372 of the  
22 National Organ Transplantation Act (Public  
23 Law 98–507; 42 U.S.C. 274), in which the vet-  
24 eran resides to receive such transplant at a  
25 medical facility of the Department; or

1           “(II) faces an unusual or excessive burden  
2           in receiving such transplant at a medical facility  
3           of the Department, including—

4                   “(aa) geographical challenges;

5                   “(bb) environmental factors, including  
6           roads that are not accessible to the general  
7           public, traffic, or hazardous weather;

8                   “(cc) a medical condition of the vet-  
9           eran that affects the ability to travel; or

10                   “(dd) other factors the Secretary de-  
11           termines appropriate, including the pref-  
12           erence of the veteran to receive such trans-  
13           plant at a non-Department facility.”.

14 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15           The amendments made by this Act shall take effect  
16           on the later of—

17                   (1) October 1, 2018; and

18                   (2) the date of the enactment of this Act.

          Passed the House of Representatives November 7,  
2017.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

*Clerk.*