

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5974

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2018

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

AN ACT

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use on-site regulated medical waste treatment systems at certain Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, 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 “Department of Vet-
3 erans Affairs Creation of On-Site Treatment Systems Af-
4 fording Veterans Improvements and Numerous General
5 Safety Enhancements Act” or the “VA COST SAVINGS
6 Enhancements Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. USE OF ON-SITE REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE**
8 **TREATMENT SYSTEMS AT DEPARTMENT OF**
9 **VETERANS AFFAIRS FACILITIES.**

10 (a) IDENTIFICATION OF FACILITIES.—The Secretary
11 of Veterans Affairs shall identify Department of Veterans
12 Affairs facilities that would benefit from cost savings asso-
13 ciated with the use of an on-site regulated medical waste
14 treatment system over a five-year period.

15 (b) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE COST ANALYSIS
16 MODEL.—For purposes of carrying out subsection (a), the
17 Secretary shall develop a uniform regulated medical waste
18 cost analysis model to be used to determine the cost sav-
19 ings associated with the use of an on-site regulated med-
20 ical waste treatment system at Department facilities. Such
21 model shall be designed to calculate savings based on—

22 (1) the cost of treating regulated medical waste
23 at an off-site location under a contract with a non-
24 Department entity, compared to

25 (2) the cost of treating regulated medical waste
26 on-site, based on the equipment specification of

1 treatment system manufacturers, with capital costs
2 amortized over a ten-year period.

3 (c) INSTALLATION.—At each Department facility
4 identified under subsection (a), the Secretary shall secure,
5 install, and operate an on-site regulated medical waste
6 treatment system.

7 (d) USE OF BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENT.—
8 Any medical waste treatment system purchased pursuant
9 to this section shall be purchased under the blanket pur-
10 chase agreement known as the “VHA Regulated Medical
11 Waste On-Site Treatment Equipment Systems Blanket
12 Purchase Agreement” or any successor, contract, agree-
13 ment, or other arrangement.

14 (e) REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE DEFINED.—In
15 this section, the term “regulated medical waste” has the
16 meaning given such term under section 173.134(a)(5) of
17 title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, concerning regu-
18 lated medical waste and infectious substances, or any suc-
19 cessor regulation, except that, in the case of an applicable
20 State law that is more expansive, the definition in the
21 State law shall apply.

22 **SEC. 3. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.**

23 No additional funds are authorized to be appro-
24 priated to carry out the requirements of this Act. Such

- 1 requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise
- 2 authorized to be appropriated.

Passed the House of Representatives July 24, 2018.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.