

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 95

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2017

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

AN ACT

To amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide child care assistance to veterans receiving certain medical services provided by the Department 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Veterans’ Access to
3 Child Care Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS RECEIV-**
5 **ING MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND OTHER IN-**
6 **TENSIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES PROVIDED**
7 **BY THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-**
8 **FAIRS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 17 of
10 title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
11 end the following new section:

12 **“§ 1730B. Child care assistance for veterans receiving**
13 **mental health care and other intensive**
14 **health care services**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide child
16 care assistance to an eligible veteran for any period that
17 the veteran—

18 “(1) receives covered health care services at a
19 facility of the Department; and

20 “(2) is required travel to and return from such
21 facility for the receipt of such health care services.

22 “(b) CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE.—(1) Child care as-
23 sistance provided under this section may include any of
24 the following:

25 “(A) A stipend for the payment of child care of-
26 fered by a licensed child care center (either directly

1 or through a voucher program) which shall be, to
2 the extent practicable, modeled after the Depart-
3 ment of Veterans Affairs Child Care Subsidy Pro-
4 gram established pursuant to section 590 of title 40.

5 “(B) Direct provision of child care at an on-site
6 facility of the Department.

7 “(C) A payment made directly to a private child
8 care agency.

9 “(D) A collaboration with a facility or program
10 of another Federal department or agency.

11 “(E) Such other form of assistance as the Sec-
12 retary considers appropriate.

13 “(2) In the case that child care assistance under this
14 section is provided as a stipend under paragraph (1)(A),
15 such stipend shall cover the full cost of such child care.

16 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) The term ‘eligible veteran’ means a vet-
18 eran who—

19 “(A) is the primary caretaker of a child or
20 children; and

21 “(B) is—

22 “(i) receiving covered health care serv-
23 ices from the Department; or

24 “(ii) in need of covered health care
25 services, and but for lack of child care

1 services, would receive such covered health
 2 care services from the Department.

3 “(2) The term ‘covered health care services’
 4 means—

5 “(A) regular mental health care services;

6 “(B) intensive mental health care services;

7 or

8 “(C) such other intensive health care serv-
 9 ices that the Secretary determines that provi-
 10 sion of assistance to the veteran to obtain child
 11 care would improve access to such health care
 12 services by the veteran.”.

13 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 14 at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting
 15 after the item relating to section 1730A the following new
 16 item:

“1730B. Child care assistance for veterans receiving mental health care and
 other intensive health care services.”.

17 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF PEN-**
 18 **SION FURNISHED BY DEPARTMENT OF VET-**
 19 **ERANS AFFAIRS FOR CERTAIN VETERANS**
 20 **COVERED BY MEDICAID PLANS FOR SERV-**
 21 **ICES FURNISHED BY NURSING FACILITIES.**

22 Section 5503(d)(7) of title 38, United States Code,
 23 is amended by striking “September 30, 2024” and insert-
 24 ing “September 30, 2026”.

1 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF REQUIREMENT FOR COLLECTION**
2 **OF FEES FOR HOUSING LOANS GUARANTEED**
3 **BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 Section 3729(b)(2) of title 38, United States Code,
5 is amended—

6 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

7 (A) in clause (iii), by striking “September
8 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
9 and

10 (B) in clause (iv), by striking “September
11 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;

12 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

13 (A) in clause (i), by striking “September
14 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
15 and

16 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “September
17 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;

18 (3) in subparagraph (C)—

19 (A) in clause (i), by striking “September
20 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
21 and

22 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “September
23 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;

24 and

25 (4) in subparagraph (D)—

1 (A) in clause (i), by striking “September
2 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”;
3 and

4 (B) in clause (ii), by striking “September
5 30, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2024”.

Passed the House of Representatives July 28, 2017.

Attest: KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk.