

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9177

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement of a service-connected disability to furnish veterans with medical care outside of a State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 25, 2024

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

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement of a service-connected disability to furnish veterans with medical care outside of a State, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Foreign Medical Pro-
5 gram Modernization Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXPANSION OF FOREIGN MEDICAL PROGRAM OF**
2 **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

3 (a) **ELIMINATION OF SERVICE-CONNECTED DIS-**
4 **ABILITY REQUIREMENT.**—Section 1724 of title 38, United
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by striking subsection (a);

7 (2) by redesignating subsections (b) through (e)
8 as subsections (a) through (d), respectively;

9 (3) in subsection (a), as so redesignated—

10 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “if the
11 Secretary determines that such care and serv-
12 ices are needed for the treatment of a service-
13 connected disability of the veteran or as part of
14 a rehabilitation program under chapter 31 of
15 this title”; and

16 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “a serv-
17 ice-connected disability of”; and

18 (4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, by
19 striking “who has a service-connected disability”.

20 (b) **ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER REIMBURSE-**
21 **MENT.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall update
22 the payment system of the Department of Veterans Af-
23 fairs to allow for reimbursements through electronic fund
24 transfer for hospital care or medical services furnished
25 pursuant to section 1724 of title 38, United States Code.

1 (c) ASSESSMENT OF CONTRACT FOR PROVISION OF
2 CARE.—The Secretary shall assess the feasibility and im-
3 plications of entering into a contract with an appropriate
4 non-Department entity to build a network of non-Depart-
5 ment entities to provide hospital care and medical services
6 pursuant to section 1724 of title 38, United States Code,
7 including implications for the administrative burden on
8 veterans eligible to receive such care and services.

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